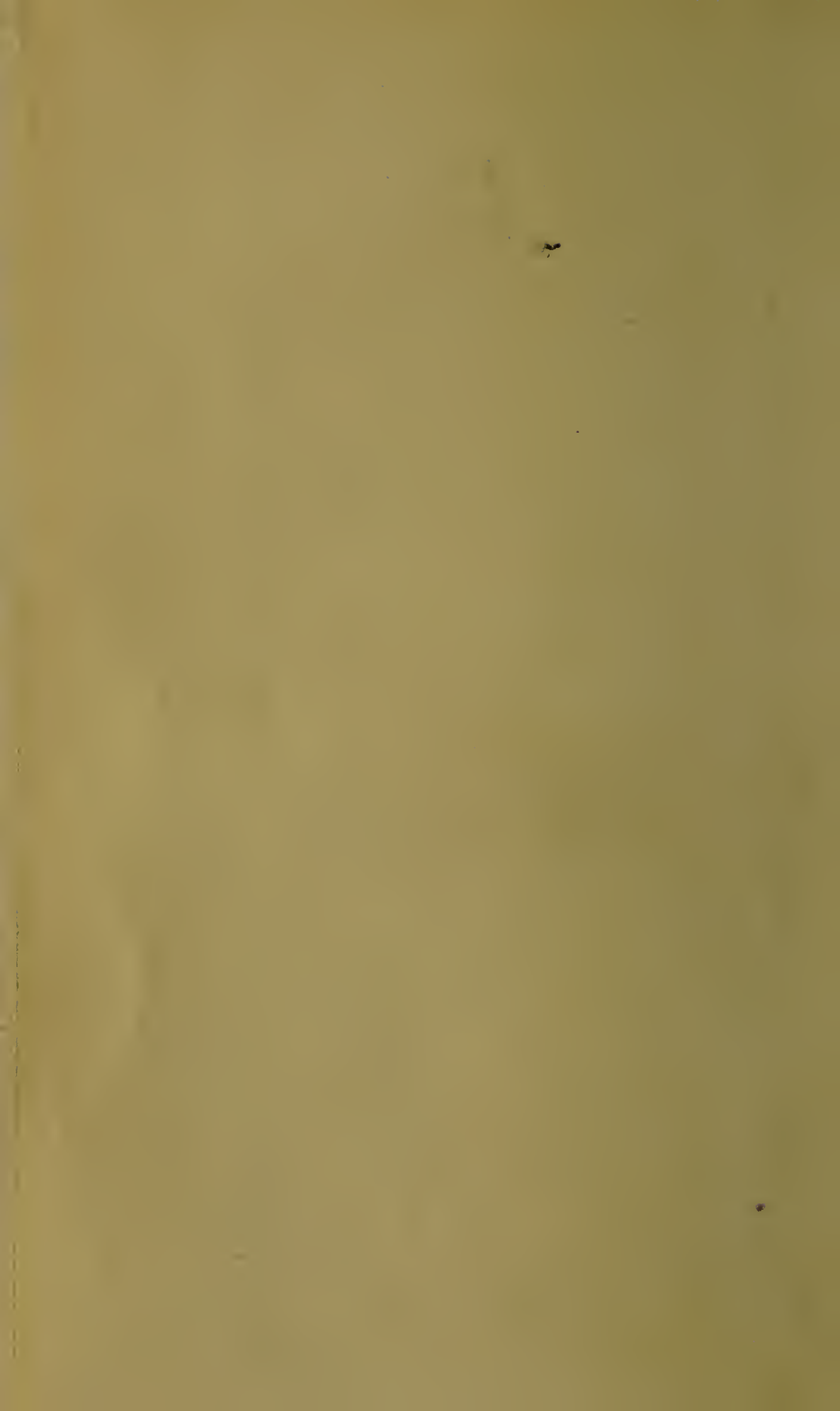




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OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

LONDON AND EDINBURGH  
DISPENSATORIES:

WITH AN

A C C O U N T

OF THE

VIRTUES OF VARIOUS SUBJECTS

OF THE

MATERIA MEDICA,

NOT CONTAINED IN EITHER OF THOSE WORKS.

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By the late JOHN RUTTY, M.D.  
AUTHOR OF A SYNOPSIS OF MINERAL WATERS,  
AND OTHER WORKS.

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L O N D O N:

Printed for EDWARD and CHARLES DILLY,  
in the POULTRY.

M DCC LXXVI.



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## P R E F A C E.

**I**F by *Materia Medica* we are to understand only a Catalogue of such Simples as are in the present practice, or what an Apothecary's Shop, situated in some populous City, is supplied with, the present undertaking might be censured as superfluous; but if by *Materia Medica* we understand, as I do, a Catalogue comprehending such Simples as, by reason of their real usefulness and frequency, ought to be in practice, and adapted to the country in general wheresoever it is  
b published,

published, and of immediate service to those who either practise in populous cities or remote places; it is hoped that the furnishing materials for such a Catalogue can hardly be deemed an useless Appendage to the *London* and *Edinburgh* Dispensatories; and the compilers of these undoubtedly deserve our thanks for ridding us of many superfluities: yet, as no human composition can be perfect, it is presumed that an endeavour on the other hand to supply certain defects, and furnish materials for some future Pharmacopœia, will not merit censure.

When the Medical Tyro sets out on the study of the materials with which he is to work, it must be supposed he will have recourse to whatsoever is established as the standard  
in



in the country where he lives : Such in *England* is the *Materia Medica* prefixed to the *London* Dispensatory published in 1746, and which is established as our standard in *Ireland* by the College of Physicians in *Dublin* ; which yet, especially as to the Plants, wants a *Materia Medica* more peculiarly appropriated to itself.

In the year 1724 the College of *London* published one of the most copious Catalogues of Officinal Simples in *Europe* ; but in their last Revival thereof of 1746, they have very justly rejected many superfluous Articles ; nevertheless, it is more than probable, that, with the lopping off those superfluities, they have not spared several excellent and useful Simples, which have not only the sanction of

Antiquity, but Experience, for their recommendation.

The College of *Edinburgh*, now the School of Physic, seem to have proceeded further in indulging the spirit of retrenching; and indeed both Colleges have too evidently betrayed an unjust contempt of our indigenous Plants, even of such as are equally useful, and far more common and easy to be procured than divers of those they have thought fit to retain. Indeed, they both seem to have given too much countenance to that fantastical maxim, *Cara quæ rara, & vice versa*; whereas wise men will acknowledge, with gratitude, the bounty of Divine Providence in furnishing mankind in the greatest plenty, with those things which at the same time are the most useful; and surely, as  
a Ma-



a *Materia Medica* ought to be framed for general use, it ought to be accommodated to the service not only of Citizens, but of Physicians in remote places residing in the Country.

A Physician of *London* or *Dublin*, who had no other standard for his *Materia Medica* than either of the two above-named, were he to be removed to any part of the Country, would, on many occasions, find himself at a great loss; whereas he who had extended his studies to Botany and Natural History, would find ample supplies afforded by the bountiful hand of Nature, as in the Alimentary way, so in the Medicinal; so that as in time of famine it were scarce possible for the Botanist to starve, so in the practice of Physic, in a remote situation, a variety of Medicines of like  
qualities

qualities and operations, and equally conducive to his end, would readily occur to him. And as I have had this in view, I have specified and added not so much the Plants which, whatever virtues they may be possessed of, are either strangers to our climate, or very difficult to be procured, such as *Colchicum*, *Flammula Jovis*, &c. but rather such as abound with us, particularly in *Ireland*.

Moreover, when it is considered what a fluctuating subject the *Materia Medica* is, and how much fashion prevails, even in this serious affair, so far that a Medicine which was cried up to the skies at one time, shall, in a period less than forty or fifty years, sink into oblivion, and give way to another more modish in its turn; it will become necessary for the Student  
of

of Phyfic to enlarge his view much farther than to fuch Medicines as are now in common Practice, or are found in either of the above named Catalogues, and even to have recourfe to the ancient Fathers of Phyfic, whose testimonies, purged from the ambiguity of ancient and modern Appellations, are worthy of regard, and many of the Virtues handed down by them to us have stood the test of Ages ; for want of an acquaintance with which, we not unfrequently obferve the Virtues of many Simples well known to the Ancients, obtruded on the public for new Discoveries.

The Observations on the Preparations in both Dispensatories are partly the result of my own Experiments, partly of the Communications of certain judicious and experienced Apothecaries



thecaries, and partly of those useful Experiments which were published by Dr. *Macbride*, in his Experimental Essays, and particularly those on the dissolving Power of Quick Lime ; and, by reason of the Affinity of the subject, are now annexed to the Observations on the Simples, as Hints of use to the Compilers of any future Pharmacopœia.

M A T E R I A

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# MATERIA MEDICA.

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## C H A P. I.

### *A Catalogue of Articles omitted in the*

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

**A**

BIES

Acetosa arvensis  
lanceolata

Acetosa vulg.

Adeps anserinus

Adiantum album

Agrimonia

Alliaria

Alnus nigra baccifera

Ambragrysea

Anonidis rad. & folia

Angelica in hortis nos-  
tris & alibi

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Abies

Acetosa arvensis lance-  
olata

Acetofella, seu Lujula

Acetum

Adeps anserinus

Adiantum album

Agrimonia

Alliaria

Alnus nigra baccifera

Amylum

Anonidis rad. & folia

Apium

B

Apium

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Apium

Aquilegia

Aquilegia

Afari rad.

Afari rad.

Asparagi rad.

Asparagi rad.

Balanus myrepfica

Balanus myrepfica

Bardana

Beccabunga

Berberis

Berberis

Brassica

Brassica

Bryoniæ albæ rad.

Bugula

Bugula

Butyrum

Butyrum

Calamintha montana

Calamintha montana

Calendulæ flores

Calendulæ flores

Cannabis semen

Calx viva &amp; aqua calcis

Caprifolium

Cancrorum chelæ

Cardiaca

Cannabis semen

Cerasus

Caprifolium

Caryophyllatæ rad.

Cardiaca

Chærophyllum

Caryophyllatæ rad.

Cheiri, seu Leucojum

Cerasus

luteum

Chærophyllum

Chelidonium majus

Cheiri, seu Leucojum

Cichorium sylv.

luteum

Cicuta

Chamædrys

Cochlea



# MATERIA MEDICA.

3

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Cochlea terrestris  
 Consolida major  
 Convolvulus major &  
     minor  
 Corallina  
 Cotula foetida  
 Cucumis hortenſis  
 Cucurbita  
 Cupreſſus  
 Cynogloſſum  
 Cynofbati flores

Chelidonium majus  
 Cichorium ſylv.  
 Citrullus  
 Cochlea terreſtris  
 Convolvulus major &  
     minor  
 Corallina  
 Cotula foetida  
 Cucumis hort. & agreſ-  
     tis  
 Cucurbita  
 Cupreſſus  
 Cynogloſſum  
 Cynofbati flores

Daucus ſylv.  
 Dens leonis  
 Digitalis  
 Dulcamara

Digitalis

Ebulus  
 Erigerum  
 Eruca  
 Eryſimum  
 Eupatorium cannabin.  
 Euphorbium

Ebulus  
 Erigerum  
 Eruca  
 Eryſimum  
 Eupatorium cannabin.  
 Euphorbium

# 4 MATERIA MEDICA.

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Faba  
Fel tauri  
Filipendula  
Filix mas  
Fæniculum vulg.  
Fragaria  
Fumaria

Faba  
Fel tauri  
Ficus  
Filipendula  
Filix mas  
Fragaria

Gallium luteum  
Genista  
Gentianella  
Geranium moschatum  
Gramen caninum  
Gummi cerasor. amygdalæ & pruni

Gallium luteum  
Gentianella  
Geranium moschatum  
Gramen caninum  
Gummi cerasor. amygdalæ & pruni

Hedera arborea  
Hippofelinum  
Hyoscyamus

Hedera arborea  
Hippofelinum

Jasmini flores  
Icthyocolla  
Imperatoria  
Iris vulg. seu Germanica  
Juglans

Jasmini flores  
Icthyocolla  
Iris vulg. seu Germanica  
Juglans

Kermes

# MATERIA MEDICA. 5

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Kermes succus

Lac Junæ

Lac lunæ

Levisticum

Ligustrum

Ligustrum

Lilium convallium

Lilium album

Linaria

———— convallium

Linum catharticum

Linaria

Lupulus

Lingua cervina

Lyfimachia spicata pur-  
purea

Linum catharticum

Lupulus

Lyfimachia spicata pur-  
purea

Malva sylv. pumila

Malva sylv. pumila

Malus hort. & sylv.

Malus hort. & sylv.

Marrubium nigrum fœ-  
tidum

Marrubium nigrum fœ-  
tidum

Melilotus

Matricaria

Millefolium

Mel

Mezereon

Melilotus

Minium

Morus

Narcissus

Narcissus

## 6 MATERIA MEDICA.

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

Oxylapathum

Perfica malus

Perficaria urens

Petasites

Petrofelini fol. & rad.

Pinus

Polygonatum

Populus nigra

Porrum

Primula veris

Prunella

Pruni fylv. flores

Quercus

Ranunculus bulbosus

Ranunculus flammeus

Raphanus hort.

Rapum

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Oleum olivarum

Origanum

Ovum gallinaceum

Oxylapathum

Pæonia

Papaver rhæas

Paralyfis

Pentaphyllum

Perfica malus

Petasites

Petrofelini folia

Pinus

Pix liquida

Populus nigra

Porrum

Primula veris

Prunella

Pruni fylv. flores

Ranunculus bulbosus

Ranunculus flammeus

Raphanus hort.

Rapum

Rhapon-



# MATERIA MEDICA.

7

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Rhaponticum	Rhaponticum
Ribegia	Ribegia
Ricinus	Rubus idæus
Rubus vulg.	Rubus vulg.
Ruscus	Ruscus
Salix	Salix
Salvia agrestis	Salvia agrestis
Sambuci fol. & cort.	Sambuci folia
Sanicula	Sanicula
Saponaria	Sapo
Satyrion	Saponaria
Scabiosa	Scabiosa
Scrophularia	Scrophularia
Secale	Secale
Sedum majus	Sedum majus
Sedum minus luteum	Sedum minus luteum
Sedum minus vermicu- latum acre	Sedum minus vermicu- latum acre
Serpyllum	Sevum ovillum
Stramonium	Succisa
Succisa	
Thymus	Terebinthina argento- ratenfis
Tithymalus	
Tritici fūrfur, Fermen- tum, Panis	Terebinthina chia Thlaspi

# 8 MATERIA MEDICA

LOND. DISPENS. 1746.

EDIN. DISPENS. 1774.

Thus vulgare

Tiliæ flores

Tithymalus

Tritici amyllum, Fur-  
fur, Fermentum, Pa-  
nis

Vaccinia palustria

Valeriana hort.

Valeriana sylv.

Verbascum

Verbena

Veronica mas

Vinca pervinca

Virga aurea

Vaccinia palustria

Valeriana hort.

Valeriana montana

Verbena

Veronica mas

Virga aurea

Ulmaria

Ulmus

Urtica

Zincum

Ulmaria

Ulmus

Uvæ passæ majores

OBSER-



## OBSERVATIONS.

MOST of the Articles in these Catalogues are simple Medicines, not less common than useful, and as such affording us a strong evidence of a bountiful Providence, in supplying us with no small number and variety of medicines of like sensible qualities, operations, and virtues, and those the productions of different places and countries, as also of different seasons of the year; by which means the Physician may, when one fails, substitute another of equal efficacy, to the great advantage of his patient on many emergencies.

It seems, therefore, not to be useless to take a summary view of the deficiencies in both the Dispensatories,

ries, named according to the different classes of Medicines, thus :

In that of *London* are wanting,

Among the Acids, the *Acetosa vulg.*  
& *lanceolata*, *Berberis fructus*, *Cerasus*, *Sedum majus*, *Vaccinia palustria*.

Among the Bitters, *Cichoreum sylv.*  
*Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Gentianella*,  
*Salicis cort.* *Salvia agrestis*, *Succisa*,  
*Verbena*.

Among the Aromatic and Fragrant,  
*Angelica in hortis nostris*, *Calamintha montana*, *Caryophyllatæ rad.* *Daucus sylv.* *Impèratoria*, *Leucojum luteum*,  
*Levisticum*, *Serpyllum*, *Thymus verus*.

Among the Fetid and Anti-hyster-  
ic, *Cardiaca*, *Cotula fœtida*, *Marrubium nigrum fœtidum*, *Porrum*.

Among the Farinaceous, Mucilaginous, or those akin to them, *Cochlea terrestris*, *Consolida major*, *Fabæ farina*, *Gum. cerasorum*, *Icthyocolla*, *Lilium album*, *Malva sylv. pumila*, *Semina frigida*.

Among the Cathartics, *Alnus nigra baccifera*, *Asari rad.* *Bryoniæ albæ rad.* *Convolvulus major & minor*, *Cynosbati flores*, *Iris vulg. seu Germanica*, *Linum catharticum*, *Mezereon*, *Oxylapathi rad.* *Pruni sylv. flores*, *Rhaponticum*, *Sambuci cort.*

Among Emetics, *Asari rad.* *Eri-geron*, *Narcissus*, *Primula veris*, *Raphanus hort.* *Sedum minus vermiculatum acre*.

The College of *Edinburgh*, tho' it must be granted that they have added  
to

to the List of their former Pharmacopœia several new articles hitherto deemed little less than poisonous, but by medical sagacity converted into efficacious medicines ; yet upon a review of the foregoing Catalogue, appear to be so far from endeavouring to supply the deficiencies mentioned in the *London Catalogue*, that they seem to have indulged the spirit of retrenching yet further, and to have manifested no less a neglect of divers useful articles, as well as of our indigenous plants.

Thus, among the Acids, they have, indeed, supplied us with the several corrosive mineral Acids, but are exceedingly scanty in the vegetable, though in many cases preferable ; for they have no *Acetum*, *Acetosa lanceolata*, *Acetofella* or *Lujula*, nor  
*Cynosbati*



*Cynosbati fructus*, nor *Sedum majus*; and they suppress in total silence those milder, grateful, saponaceous Acids which, by the liberal hand of Nature, are supplied us by our Fruits; most of which might be preserved for all seasons, and be of signal use; viz. those of *Berberis*, *Morus*, *Rubus idæus*, *Vaccinia palustris*, and *Uvæ Corinthiacæ*.

Among the Aromatic and Fragrant are wanting, *Calamintha montana*, *Caryophyllatæ rad.* *Jasmini flores*, *Leucorum luteum*, *Origanum*, *Subdanum*, and *Thus*.

Among the Fetid and Anti-hysterical, *Cardiaca*, *Cotula fœtida*, *Marrubium nigrum fœtidum*, *Matricaria*, *Nepeta*, *Porrum*.

Among

Among the Farinaceous, Mucilaginous, or those akin to them, are not found, *Amylum*, *Cochlea terrestris*, *Fabæ farina*, *Gum. cerasorum*, *Icthyocolla*, *Malva pumila*, nor *Semina frigida*.

Among the Cathartics we find none of the following : *Alnus nigra baccifera*, *Asari rad.* *Convolvulus major* & *minor*, *Cynosbati flores*, *Ebulus*, *Iris vulg. seu Germanica*, *Linum catharticum*, *Oxylapathum*, *Pruni sylv. flores*, *Rhaponticum*.

Among the Emetics appear none of the following : *Asari rad.* *Eriogerum*, *Narcissus*, *Primula veris*, *Raphanus hort.* *Sedum minus vermiculatum acre*.

Among the Bitters are not found the *Chamædrys*, *Cichorium sylv.* *Eu-*



*patorium cannabinum, Gentianella, Salicis cort. Salvia agrestis, Succisa, nor Verbena.*

As to the Sweets, they have left the Apothecary's shop destitute not only of Figs, Raifins, and Dates, but of Honey, and even of Sugar for his Syrups and Juleps.

I proceed next, with a view to rescue from neglect and oblivion the above enumerated Articles, to give a short sketch of their virtues and usefulness on many emergencies, from authority and experience; prefixing the letters *L. & E.* or *L.* or *E.* to each, in order to shew where they are wanting; only making this preliminary observation, That the operation of any medicine is so far from being a certain or determinate thing, that it

it is liable to be varied by the age, sex, different state of health and different regimen of the patient.

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*L. & E.* ABIES RUBRA, *The Common Fir Tree or Pitch Tree.*

Well merits a place in a British or Irish *Materia Medica*, being replete with a balsamic matter; and a decoction of the tops of the leaves in diet-drinks in the scurvy is not rashly preferred to those of the exotic woods. See PINUS.

*L. & E.* ACETOSA ARVENSIS LANCEOLATA, C. B. *Sheeps Sorrel.*

This, though not mentioned by either of the Colleges, is the most frequent as well as the most strongly acid

acid of all the Sorrels, and is said to be more grateful to the stomach; and as the vegetable acids are of no small use in medicine, and in several cases preferable to the mineral, and lemons and oranges are not always to be got, these will abundantly supply the defect; and a *Rob* may be made of the juice, and kept for use in all seasons.

E. ACETOSELLA. TRIFOLIUM ACETOSUM VULG. LUJULA, C. B. *Wood Sorrel.*

Deserves to be specified, exhibiting a more grateful acid than common Sorrel.

E. ACETUM, *Vinegar.*

Besides its entering into several compositions, its various and signal

C uses

uses are undeniable : but it shall suffice in this place to mention only, 1st, its furnishing us with a whey in fevers, a very useful medicine, easily procured : 2dly, that *Sylvius* the Professor, in his visits to the sick during two plagues at Amsterdam, preserved himself from infection by taking a spoonful of vinegar every morning : 3dly, in defect of the volatile spirits, it may be blown up the nostrils in order to rouse the lethargic.

*L. & E.* ADEPS ANSERINUS, *Goose Grease.*

May be admitted as a variety among the fatty substances, being allowed to be more subtile and penetrating than Hog's Grease.

*L. & E.*



L. & E. ADIANTUM ALBUM. RU-  
TA MURARIA, C. B.  
*White Maiden Hair,*  
*Wall Rue.*

Here the *London* and *Edinburgh* Colleges are no guides to us in *Dublin*; for of all the Maiden Hairs this is the most common here, being, indeed, very frequent on old walls in our neighbourhood; though both the *Edinburgh* and *London* Colleges pass it by, retaining only the *Trichomanes*, which is not so easily procured; to which the *White Maiden Hair* agrees in all the sensible qualities, as well as to the *Capillus Veneris*; and in all probability is possessed of the same virtues.

L. & E. AGRIMONIA, *Agrimony.*

Is a mild astringent and aromatic, and as such worth retaining. The

powder of the dried herb, in a convenient vehicle, is much recommended by *Riverius* in involuntary passing of urine.

*L. & E.* ALLIARIA, C. B. *Sauce alone.*

Is worth retaining, both for its frequency and virtues, like those of Garlick, as well as resembling it in smell and taste ; and the juice, or the herb bruised, and applied with salt and vinegar and water, is much recommended in fordid and putrid ulcers.

*L. & E.* ALNUS NIGRA BACCIFERA, C. B. *Blackberry-bearing Alder.*

The inner bark, which is yellow, and gives a deep tincture to water and spirit of wine, is one of our indigenous purges, and is taken to one drachm in  
powder

powder for this purpose ; and to two drachms in decoction, in six ounces of water boiled to four.

*L.*      AMBRAGRYSEA, *Amber-grise.*

We are invited to take notice of it by its having been sometimes thrown upon our coasts ; and it is worthy of a place here as a cordial, as well as Musk, and other medicines of the same class.

*E.*      AMYLUM, *Starch.*

Approaches to the nature of the mucilaginous Gums, and has the sanction of antiquity and modern practice for its good effects both in external and internal use ; for not only the powder, sprinkled on excoriated parts, heals them, but it is taken internally for the cure of diarrhæas.

attended with acrimony, and in hæmoptoes.

L. ANGELICA SATIVA, C. B.

*Garden Angelica.*

The *London* College orders the root to be brought from *Spain*; but Doctor *Alston* remarks, that *Angelica* is also a native of very cold countries, as *Lapland*; and there, as well as in our gardens, equally aromatic and carminative.

L. & E. ANONIS SPINOSA & SPINIS  
CARENS, C. B. *The*  
*Rest-barrow.*

Is a very common plant with us, not unworthy of notice, though out of fashion. The leaf and root are possessed of much the like sensible qualities, being sweetish with some degree of acrimony. The juice of the leaf  
shews



shews an alkaline tendency by keeping clear with alcalis, but thickening with acids. The bark of the root, which is chiefly used, has the smell of Liquorice, with a sweetish-bitterish taste, and somewhat nauseous. It was formerly placed among the five lesser opening roots, and perhaps not undeservedly, its decoction being strongly recommended in obstructions of the kidneys and liver.

*L. & E.* APIUM PALUSTRE, C. B.

*Smallage.*

Is worth retaining, were it for no other reason than for its frequency, and the usefulness of the herb (tho' the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory mentions only the root and seed), in external application, as a discutient, particularly in resolving tumours of the breast from coagulated milk : nor has

the root forfeited its place among the opening roots, though of a milder smell than the leaf, and of a sweetish taste, almost like Parsnip, and so is placed among the mild diuretics,

*L. & E.* AQUILEGIA SYLV. C. B.

It is frequently found wild near *Dublin*, and the leaves have a mild astringency (but the seeds a much stronger), and are frequently, and not unjustly, used in diseases of the mouth and throat, their astringency being tempered with a sweetness.

*L. & E.* ASARUM, C. B. *Asarabacca.*

The root is not mentioned in either Dispensatory, though stronger and more in use among the Ancients than the leaves, and purging upwards and downwards; but by long boiling in  
water

water may be deprived of its emetic quality, and become a powerful alterative and diaphoretic, diuretic and emmenagogue, even as the Ipecacuanha given in small doses, and Tobacco on long-continued boiling.

*L. & E.* ASPARAGUS SATIVA, C. B.

*Sparrow-grass.*

The roots are a well-known diuretic, as well as the tops, and are placed among the five opening roots.

*L. & E.* BALANUS MYREPSICA,

GLANS UNGUENTARIA,

MYROBALANUM

PLINIO & AETIO,

& OLEUM BALAN-

NUM, *Oil of Ben.*

Seems worthy of having its memory preserved, and the rather, because of the fruit; which, with respect to  
the

the quality of its contents, bears a near analogy to that of the *Ricinus* or *Cataputia major*, C.B. ; the entire fruit, with its skin, being possessed of a great degree of acrimony so as to prove emetic and cathartic : but the kernel is sweetish and very fat, and yields an oil by expression ; which oil, like the *Oleum Ricini*, is also more moderately purgative, and has this peculiar excellency, That it does not grow rancid by age ; and therefore several fragrant simples, as Jasmine, Musk, &c. are preserved by it ; and being itself inodorous, it receives the fine scents, and retains them a long time.

L. BAR-



L. BARDANA, LAPPA MAJOR  
MONTANA LANUGINO-  
SIS CAPITULIS, five,  
ARCTIUM DIOSCORI-  
DIS, C. B. *Burdock.*

The *Edinburgh* College have justly adopted it. The root is of a sweetish and slightly mucilaginous taste, with some small degree of acrimony. *Simon Pauli* prefers the decoction of it to half a pound in a quart of wine and a quart of water, as superior to *Sarsa* and the exotic woods, in weak and emaciated bodies, in the cure of the venereal disease, being a mild diaphoretic, and in some degree analeptic.—It may also be taken in form of a conserve.

E. BEC-

*E.* BECCABUNGA, ANAGALLIS AQUATICA FOLIO SUBROTUNDO MINOR,  
C. B. *Brooklime.*

Is possessed of a gentle acrimony, and is substringent, and has not been rashly admitted as an ingredient in the *Succi Scorbutici*; for there are not wanting good authorities for its efficacy, even when used alone, in external application, in the cure of scorbutic ulcers and other diseases of the skin.

*L. & E.* BERBERIS DUMETORUM,  
C. B. *Barberry-bush.*

Is worth mentioning for the strong acid of its fruit, of use in putrid fevers attended with bilious vomitings and purgings.

*L. & E.*

*L. & E.* BRASSICA ALBA CAPITATA & NON CAPITATA,  
C. B. *Cale and Cabbage.*

The Ancients were well acquainted with its uses both in diet and medicine, and even in malignant ulcers and cancers, the part being fomented with warm water, and the leaves bruised applied twice in the day ; and now, as its contents have been more minutely investigated, and a saccharine substance plainly discovered in it by the Moderns, 'tis pity it should be laid aside as a medicine.

It bears some resemblance to Turnips in respect to sweetness combined with a degree of acrimony ; and *Dioscorides*' recommendation of it, by chewing it and swallowing the spittle, for the cure of hoarseness, agrees well to the *Loboch de caulibus* prepared by  
the

the Moderns for the same purpose, and to the virtues of the decoction in coughs, and its being in some cases a good restorative.

L. BRYONIA ALBA BACCIS  
RUBRIS, C. B. *White*  
*Bryony.*

It is justly adopted by the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, and is frequent with us, and useful both externally as a discutient, and internally in dropfical cases, purging by vomit and stool; the dose in substance to a drachm, in the juice from two drachms to half an ounce: it is also emmenagogue and anthelmintic. If it be dried and steeped in wine, and then dried again, it becomes mild in operation.

L. & E.



L. & E. BUGULA. CONSOLIDA MEDIA PRATENSIS CÆRULEA, C. B. *Bugle.*

It is a very mild astringent ; and that putrid ulcers in the mouth, and aphthæ, are healed by washing with a decoction of it, is affirmed ; which countenances its appellation of *Consolidamedia*.

L. & E. BUTYRUM, *Butter.*

Deserves to be adopted for its usefulness not only in diet, but as a medicine promoting suppuration, as other fatty substances, and internally promoting expectoration ; and *Baglivi* recommends bolusses of fresh butter and sugar in catarrhal coughs : moreover, in case of poison being taken, where oil is not to be got, this may in some degree supply its place.

L. & E.

L. & E. CALAMINTHA MONTANA.

CALAMINTHA VULG.

OFFICIN. GERMANIÆ,

C. B. *Mountain Calamint.*

The College of *London* have inserted only the *Calamintha pulegii* odore, which is scarcely to be got, with us ; whereas the other is not unfrequent, and yields a very good distilled water abounding with essential oil.

This is one of those plants which hath been handed down to us by the Ancients, justly ascribing to it the same virtues as to Peniroyal, than which it is stronger. See the account of the Distilled Waters.

L. & E.

L. & E. CALTHA VULG. C. B. CA-  
LENDULA, *Marigold.*

We have not sufficient reason to reject the flowers as a diaphoretic, as their smell, and withal a considerable degree of acrimony, seem to be agreeable to such an operation. The leaves also are possessed of a considerable degree of acrimony, even greater than the flowers ; and *Matthiolum* gives ample testimony of the efficacy of both as an emmenagogue.

E. CALX VIVA & AQUA CALCIS, *Lime and Lime Water.*

The introduction of this last into practice, in liberal doses, does honour to the present Age ; for, besides that its use as a *menstruum* is very considerable, it is a powerful

D                      medi-

medicine in diseases of the *primæ viæ*, as well as in calculous cases.

*E.*      CANCRORUM CHELÆ,  
*Crabs Claws.*

This may be no uselefs addition to the number of our Absorbents, and the rather, as it is cheaper, and less liable to adulteration, than the Crabs Eyes.

*L. & E.*    CANNABIS SATIVA, C. B.  
*Hemp.*

The seed is mucilaginous and very oily; emollient, and said to be possessed of something narcotic. It is well known to fatten little birds and hens, and in the hands of the prudent might undoubtedly be useful to mankind, particularly in an emulsion in coughs.

*L. & E.*



L. & E. CARDIACA, J. B. MAR-  
 RUBIUM CARDIACA  
 DICTUM FORTE, PRI-  
 MUM THEOPHRASTI,  
 C. B. *Motherwort*.

Is possessed of the like sensible qua-  
 lities as other Anti-hysterics, being  
 fetid, bitter, and acrid, and so seems  
 not to have acquired its English name  
 without reason, having been found  
 by experience good in hysteric cases.  
 It used to be cultivated in gardens,  
 and is said to have been found wild  
 near *Dublin*.

L. & E. CARYOPHYLLATA VULG.  
 C. B. *Avens*.

The plant is very frequent with us,  
 and the root well worthy of being  
 adopted, being an aromatic astringent,  
 like Cloves, from which it derives its  
 name, but is far less hot; and for

this reason is a most agreeable ingredient in diet-drinks and medicaments.

*L. & E.* CERASUS SATIVA, C. B.  
CERASUS RUBRA &  
NIGRA, *Red and Black*  
*Cherries.*

Deserve to be retained both for the fruit and gum; and the Red Cherry particularly for the sake of the *rob*, which may be prepared from thence, and be of use in fevers.

*L. & E.* CHÆROPHYLLUM SATIVUM, C. B. *Garden*  
*Chervil.*

Is not only a grateful, sweet, mild aromatic in broths and fallads, and akin to Fennel; but its juice is worthy of notice, being celebrated as a powerful diuretic in dropfies, taken to  
three

three or four ounces with wine every four hours.

*E.* CHAMÆDRYS MINOR REPENS, C. B. *Germander*.

Is justly retained in the *London Dispensatory*, being one of the Aromatic Bitters of the Ancients, and withal astringent; and we have the authority of *Aetius* for its decoction curing Quartans; which may admit of some degree of confirmation from *Chomel's* testimony of the infusion of it, joined to that of Centaury, in white wine, curing Agues which had resisted the *Cortex*.

*L. & E.* CHEIRI, LEUCOJUM LUTEUM VULG. C. B. *Wall-flower*.

The Wall-flower recommends itself to our use by its great frequency both

D 3 wild

wild and in our gardens, being fragrant and aromatic, and possessed of a considerable degree of bitterness and acrimony, and a powerful emmenagogue by the testimony of both Ancients and Moderns ; and an oil prepared from it by infusion is recommended for resolving cold tumours, and as an anodyne in wounds and inflammations of the nervous parts.

*L. & E.* CHELIDONIUM MAJUS  
VULG. C. B. *The*  
*Greater Celandine.*

The yellow juice is bitter and caustic, and is used to destroy warts ; and three or four drops of it have been prescribed to be taken in a draught of wine in cachectic and dropfical cases ; and the root is recommended both by Ancients and Moderns, mixed with or infused in wine, in the jaundice.

*L. & E.*



*L. & E.* CICHOREUM SYLV. five OFFICINARUM, C. B. *Wild Succory.*

It is very frequent with us, and withal more bitter than most of the lactescent tribe, having thence derived its name of *Picris*, being a saponaceous bitter, and as such seems to have been not rashly recommended in incipient obstructions of the viscera.

*L.* CICUTA MAJOR, C. B. *Hemlock.*

Deserves to be retained, not only as an anodyne, with others of that class, but otherwise; for though, indeed, it has not effected all that has been promised, yet that it has had very good effects, both in external and internal use, is undeniable; particularly as a powerful discutient in scrophulous tumours, in the cure of for-

did and corrosive ulcers, and even as a palliative in cancers. See the preparation of it among the Extracts.

*L. & E.* COCHLEA TERRESTRIS, *The House Snail.*

The flesh was in great esteem among the Ancients as a restorative in diet; nor has it forfeited our regard as such, but preserves it in that not unelegant preparation of it in *Bate's Dispensatory*, called *Decoctum Limacum*.—It appears also by their writings, that they were not strangers to the use of the shells crude and calcined in cases of the gravel and stone, the principal ingredient in *Stevens's Lithontriptic*, and indeed the very ground-work of the advances we have made towards a discovery of a real Lithontriptic in the calcined limestone.

*L. CON-*

L. CONSOLIDA MAJOR, C. B.  
*Comfrey.*

As the root of this yields a greater quantity of mucilage, and that more viscous, than Marsh-mallows, and so comes nearer to Gum Arabic, and may on many occasions be a useful substitute to this last; it is worthy to be retained, particularly for its usefulness in hæmoptoës, in the celebrated *Syrupus Boyleanus* in *Fuller's Pharmacopœia Extemporanea*, of which this is a principal ingredient.

L. & E. CONVULVULUS MAJOR &  
 MINOR, C. B. *Great  
 and Small Bind-weed.*

Though omitted in both Dispensatories, deserves regard, being one of our indigenous purges, and very frequent here, and may be of use to the Physician in places remote from the shops.

shops. *Hoffman* calls it *German Scammony*; and *Prevôtius*, in his *Medicina Pauperum*, places it among the mild Cathartics, being given to this purpose to a handful or two in decoction.

*L. & E.* CORALLINA, *Sea Coralline*.

Is found on our coasts, and preferred by some as a vermifuge to most of the bitter herbs; as not only fretting the worms by its asperity, but also expelling them by some degree of a purgative quality which it is possessed of, whilst at the same time it is an absorbent in acids.

*L. & E.* COTULA FOETIDA, CHAMÆMELUM FOETIDUM,  
C.B. *Stinking May Weed*.

Well deserves a place here for its frequency and usefulness. Its fetor, acrimony, and bitterness promise considerable



siderable virtues : it yields by distillation an oil of a beautiful blue colour, like Sapphire ; and *Tragus* recommends the herb as equal to Castor in hysterical cases ; and *Langrish*, an author of credit, gives an instance of a chronical rheumatism, with loss of limbs, cured by a decoction of it sweetened with treacle, as a sudorific.

*E.* CUCUMIS SYLVESTRIS, C.B.  
*Wild Cucumber.*

Supplies us with the *Elaterium*, a well-known useful purge where the drastic purges are required.

*L. & E.* CUCURBITA MAJOR SESSILIS FLORE ALBO, C. B.  
*The Gourd.*

The seeds of this, and the rest of the cold seeds, are justly retained in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, 1756, though

though rejected in the last ; for they supply us with a variety in our emulsions ; which, when made with these seeds, are preferred by some, as being more watery and less oily than with Almonds.

*L. & E.* CUPRESSUS, C. B. *Cypress.*

Is justly inserted in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, 1735, for the sake of its cones ; being a balsamic, aromatic astringent, and a medicine in great request among Ancients and Moderns ; and in the *Miscellanea Curiosa* several instances are given of intermitting fevers being cured by three drachms of the powder given in strong white wine at the beginning of the fit.

*L. & E.*

*L. & E.* CYNOGLOSSUM MAJUS  
 VULG. C. B. *Great*  
*Hounds-tongue.*

The *London* Dispensatory formerly ordered pills of it; and though it be rejected at present in both Dispensatories, being suspected as a narcotic, yet even as such it may prove useful in prudent hands; and it is powerfully anodyne in external application in cataplasms and ointments, particularly an ointment of it and hog's-lard assuaging the pains of the hemorrhoids.

*L. & E.* CYNOSBATI FLORES, *The*  
*Flowers of the Dog Rose.*

This part of the plant, though overlooked in both the Dispensatories, yet, as one of our indigenous cathartics, merits a place here; being purgative, like the Damask Roses, when boiled in whey, and their frequency ought

ought to recommend them. The pulp also is suppressed in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory, although it furnishes us with one of the most agreeable of our conserves.

L. DAUCUS SYLV. SEM. *Wild*  
*Carrot Seed.*

Here the *Edinburgh* College have shewn a just regard for our *Indigenæ*, even in adopting this, and rejecting the *Creticus*; for indeed we need not go to Crete for the seeds of the *Daucus* as a diuretic, as long as we are very liberally supplied with this; which, by the testimony of *Van Helmont* and others, is found to have powerful effects in expelling small stones which stick in the urinary passages after the expulsion of a large stone, and perhaps more effectual for this purpose than if it were hotter—being a grate-  
ful



ful aromatic, balsamic medicine. The powder is given to two drachms in wine, or infused in half a pint of water, morning and evening, in nephritic pains with bloody urine.

L. DENS LEONIS LATIORE &  
ANGUSTIORE FOLIO,  
C. B. *Dandelion Broad  
and Narrow-leaved.*

This also is justly retained by the College of *Edinburgh*, being, especially the root, mildly bitter and sweet, with a slight acrimony; and so it is deobstruent without heating, and is not rashly recommended in coughs attended with bloody and purulent spits and night-sweats—milk fresh drawn being poured on the leaves and roots, and taken every morning; and to those of flatulent stomachs *Fuller* orders it to be bruised, and put in a glazed

glazed vessel into an oven immediately after the bread has been drawn out, and to stay there six hours ; by which means a clear liquor will flow from it, which is to be taken to four drachms or six, three times or oftener in the day, to correct the acrimony of the blood and humours in the scurvy and cutaneous diseases.

*L. & E.* DIGITALIS PURPUREA  
FOLIO ASPERO, C. B.  
*Fox-glove.*

To say nothing of its operation as an emetic and cathartic, as being too strong for weak bodies, the flowers and leaves are worth retaining, if on no other account, on that of their powerfully discussing quality—being applied to scrophulous tumours by way of cataplasm alone, or mixed with hog's-lard or May butter—being renewed

renewed from day to day for some months ; in some of which cases it acted as a slight vesicatory, causing a discharge of a thin humour.

L.      DULCAMARA, SOLANUM.  
              SCANDENS, seu DULCA-  
              M A R A, C. B. *Woody*  
              *Night-shade, or Bitter-*  
              *sweet.*

The stalks and root in decoctions have lately acquired great reputation as a sweetener of the blood ; in other terms, mitigating acrimony in venereal, scorbutic, and even consumptive cases not too far advanced, so as to be substituted for Sarsaparilla ; their detergent and attenuating quality being also very mild, and not raising any inflammation : two or three ounces of the stalks fresh are added to a pint of water, and boiled only a short time.

*L. & E.* EBULUS, SAMBUCUS HUM-  
 ILIS, seu EBULUS,  
*C. B. Dwarf Elder.*

Is found wild here, and is one of our indigenous purges: its virtues are considerable both in external and internal use, being much like those of Elder. The middle bark of the root was well known to the Ancients as well as Moderns as a drastic purge in dropfies—two ounces being used in infusion, and one ounce of the juice.

*E.* ELEMI GUMMI.

Is rather a resin than a gum; and the *London* Dispensatory has an ointment of it; why that of *Edinburgh* has rejected it does not appear.

*L. & E.*



L. &amp; E. ERIGERON, SENECEO

MINOR VULG. C. B.

*Groundsel.*

Its great frequency and use as a most ready emetic for children, ought to recommend it: a spoonful or two of the juice in beer for infants, or an infusion or decoction of it in whey, is given with this view. It is also given as a purge to horses and birds; and two ounces of the juice are given to kill worms in men, for which purpose it was used by the Ancients; and the juice is also given by the Moderns for curing botts in horses.

L. &amp; E. ERYSIMUM VULG. C. B.

*Hedge Mustard.*

Nature has supplied us very liberally with it: it is but a little inferior to Mustard in acrimony; and it is strongly recommended, drank like

tea, and sweetened with honey, in old coughs, pituitous asthmas, and obstinate hoarsenesses.

L. & E. EUPATORIUM CANNABINUM, C. B. *Hemp Agrimony.*

This plant, though overlooked in Dispensatories, is gratefully aromatic, bitter, and withal very frequent with us. It is recommended in weakneses supervening on chronic diseases, particularly after intermitting fevers, an infusion of it being drank like tea; and a fomentation with a decoction, and a cataplasm of it, are said to have been effectual in dissipating dropfical swellings; and that an hydrocele has been cured by it, without the puncture, is affirmed by *Chomel*.

L. & E.

## L. &amp; E. EUPHORBIIUM.

If there be any regard due to the authority of *Fallopious*, *Hildanus*, and others, this surely ought to be adopted for its usefulness in corrosive ulcers with carious bones ; and in the puncture of a nerve, which often happens in bleeding, *Scultetus* recommends the following composition : *Recipe, Euphorbii scrupulum, Terebinthinæ semiunciam, Cerae parum: Extende super alutam, & applica calidè.*——Add to this, that it is of use to quicken the operation of milder materials, as by adding one-eighth of *Euphorbium* to Burgundy Pitch in plasters.

L. & E. FABA MAJOR, C. B. *Garden Bean.*

The omission of this article by both Colleges is not to be excused, even for the usefulness of its meal,



particularly in inflammations of the breasts and *testes*—either discussing them or bringing them to suppuration ; and moreover, the Bean is further worthy of particular notice for the sake of its stalks, which it supplies in plenty ; because, being burnt, their ashes, like those of Broom, give salts perfectly alkaline, without any mixture of other neutral salts ; and upon that account their infusion in wine is preferable as a diuretic, even to expel small gravel or sand in nephritic cases, and wherever a purely alkaline salt is required.

L. & E. FEL TAURI, *Bull's Gall.*

Is worthy of being adopted, not only as it is a *menstruum* for dissolving oily, resinous bodies, and is of use in clysters to procure a stool, and applied externally to the abdomen to  
kill



kill worms; but it may be also used internally, being inspissated and reduced to pills, and given in diseases from an *inertia bilis*; and *Hippocrates* gave it in wine as an emmenagogue.

L. & E. FILIPENDULÆ VULG. RADIX, C. B. *Dropwort.*

Its sensible qualities, as well as the testimony of respectable Authors, strongly recommend it, being of a grateful smell and vinous flavour, of a sweet-bitterish, sub-acrid, aromatic taste, together with an astringency; and is said to have been of signal use as a diuretic in the nephritic colic, in hernias, in the *fluor albus*, and particularly in the dysentery—being given to a drachm in wine, or in the yolk of an egg.

L. & E. FILIX MAS NON RAMOSA  
 DENTATA, C. B. *Common Male Fern.*

The root is of a strong smell, of a sweet-bitterish taste, and austere. It seems intitled to a place here, both from its frequency and its virtues. An eminent Author has asserted, that two drachms of the powder purge gently, and bind afterwards, like Rhubarb. It is celebrated by both Ancients and Moderns as an anthelmintic both in the long and flat worms—for which purpose *Hoffman* prescribes three drachms in honey and water.

L. FOENICULUM VULG. GER-  
 MANICUM, C. B. *Fennel.*

Is worth retaining, not only for the root, which in smell and taste, and perhaps

perhaps in virtues, is equal to the *Ginseng* of the *Chinese*, being mildly aromatic, with a degree of acrimony; and being cut across, when fresh, it yields a milk which, on standing, becomes a clear balsam; and the seed, which is stronger, abounds with essential oil; and *Grew* recommends an emulsion to be made of it as a carminative.

L. & E. FRAGARIA VULG. C. B.

*Common Strawberry.*

To say nothing of the fruit, among the *Germans* the fresh-bruised leaves have been applied in the cure of obstinate ulcers in the legs, when other remedies have failed. See RUBUS VULG.

L. FUMA-



*L.* FUMARIA OFFIC. & DIOS-  
CORIDIS, C. B. *Fumi-*  
*tory.*

It is justly adopted by the *Edin-*  
*burgh* Dispensatory, being possessed of  
a considerable degree of bitterness and  
acrimony, and has the sanction of  
ancient and modern authority for its  
virtues in cutaneous cases ; for which  
purpose it ought to be given in the  
juice or infusion in whey, its acri-  
mony being volatile.

*L. & E.* GALLIUM LUTEUM, C. B.  
*Yellow Ladies Bed-straw.*

This species of *Gallium*, at least,  
demands a particular attention, as  
being very frequent, and moreover  
because it is distinguished from other  
vegetables, and particularly from Sor-  
rel, in this : That the water distilled  
from the leaves and flowers is acid,  
and



and consequently it contains a more subtile and volatile acid than Sorrel. The flowers are of a fragrant, but somewhat strong smell; the leaves and flowers are of a bitterish, sub-astringent taste. The flowers are much in use, according to the *French Writers*, in convulsive disorders in children, and with us in spasmodic diseases of the belly; for which purpose a spoonful of the infusion in wine has been given three times in the day.

*L.* GENISTA ANGULOSA &  
SCOPARIA, C. B. *Common Broom.*

Is worthy of a place here for its frequency and usefulness, 1st, as a purge and vomit—two drachms of the flowers in substance, and of the seed from half a drachm to a drachm, being

being said to vomit, and an ounce of the juice of the young stalks to purge and vomit, and half an ounce diluted to purge weakly. 2dly, Its ashes, like those of Bean-stalks, yield a salt more perfectly alkaline, freer from the mixture of the neutral salts, than any other vegetables, and as such are preferable in wine as a diuretic.

*L. & E.* GENTIANA PRATENSIS  
FLORE LANUGINOSO,  
C. B. GENTIANELLA  
AUTUMNALIS OFFIC.  
*Bastard Gentian.*

We need not go to *Italy* nor *Crete* for Gentian, whilst we are so liberally supplied with this plant and Centaury at home—this also being found wild in the neighbourhood of *Dublin*; concerning which *Dale* in his *Pharmacologia* says, that it is a most excellent

lent stomachic, more grateful than Centaury, and was greatly in request in this view in *London*.

L. & E. GERANIUM MOSCHATUM,  
C. B. *Musked Cranes-*  
*bill.*

So called for its musk-like smell, which, together with its astringent quality, entitles it to our regard as a cordial; which is countenanced by what *Linnaeus* reports, of its having formerly been used *ad exanthemata pellenda*.

L. & E. GRAMEN CANINUM AR-  
VENSE, C. B. *Common*  
*Quick Grass.*

There are two sorts of the *Gramen caninum* frequent with us, viz. besides the above,

L. & E.



L. & E. GRAMEN NODOSUM AVE-  
 NACEA PANICULA,  
 C. B. *The Knotty-root-  
 ed Dog-grass.*

This last has a more sensible acri-  
 mony than the other. Concerning  
 this root *Simon Pauli* gives the fol-  
 lowing ample testimony: “*Ubi insig-*  
 “*nis dyscrasia viscerum calida cum eo-*  
 “*rundem obstructione ægros affligit, vix*  
 “*exoptatius remedium ars nostra suppe-*  
 “*ditat.*”

L. & E. GUMMI } AMYGDALÆ  
 } CERASORUM  
 } PRUNI

Are worthy regard as *succedanea* in  
 remote places where Gum Arabic is  
 not to be got.



L. & E. HEDERA ARBOREA, C. B.

*Climbing or Berried Ivy.*

Not only the leaves, applied green and slightly bruised, are used in the country instead of the green plaster in issues; but *Hildanus* recommends the wood to be turned in the shape of peas, to be used in setons and issues—alleging that, as it is not apt to putrify, it need not be changed oftener than once in a month. The berries taken to one drachm are said to purge upwards and downwards, but taken in a smaller dose are recommended as diuretic, diaphoretic, and emmenagogue.

L. & E. HIPPOSELINUM THEOPHRASTI, vel SMYRNIUM DIOSCORIDIS,  
C. B. *Alexanders.*

Merits a place here, not only for the distilled water from the leaves,  
but

but for the seeds, which are strongly aromatic, and have somewhat of the flavour of Juniper-berries; and probably the like virtues. It abounds in the neighbourhood of *Dublin*. See the account of Distilled Waters.

*L.*        *HYOSCYAMUS NIGER* vel  
              *VULG. C. B. Common*  
              *Henbane.*

*Dr. Whytt* makes an observation concerning its extract, similar to what *Dr. Fothergill* makes concerning that of Hemlock; viz. That it does not bind the belly as Opium; for which reason, in cases where Laudanum on account of its binding quality did not answer, he [*Dr. Whytt*] found that a small dose of the extract of Henbane at night, as from one grain to two or three, and repeated in a less quantity

quantity in the morning, succeeded well as a paregoric.

*L. & E.* JASMINUM VULGATIUS

FLORE ALBO, C. B.

*White Jasmine or Jessamy.*

The flowers may be of real use, not only as a perfume, being of a fragrant and very grateful smell, but possessed also of a degree of bitterness and acrimony, and as such are said to take away scurf and dandriff; and an oil is prepared from them by infusion, which is said to produce a like effect, and recommended for resolving stumous and cold tumours.

*L. & E.* ICHTHYOCOLLA, *Isinglass.*

Deserves to be adopted as one of the best of the agglutinating tribe, and particularly for the sake of its

F

jelly;

jelly; of which *Bate* gives an elegant description in his *Pharmacopœia*.

L. IMPERATORIA MAJOR,  
C. B. *Masterwort*. Ra-  
dix.

The College of *Edinburgh* have thought fit to adopt this, and very justly; for it is an excellent aromatic, replete with a native balsam, superior to *Angelica* and *Zedoary*—being sudorific, diuretic, carminative, and as such recommended in the tympany and flatulent colics; but in a large dose, as half an ounce or an ounce, it is said to be cathartic. It is therefore well worthy of being planted in our gardens, as it used to be.



L. & E. IRIS VULG. seu GERMANICA, C. B. *Common Flower-de-luce.*

Is worthy of a place here, being supplied by our gardens. The juice of the root, depurated by subsidence, is a drastic purge, taken from two drachms to half an ounce fix drachms, or an ounce, in broth, by reason of its acrimony: it is also a strong emetic.

L. & E. JUGLANS, J. B. JUGLANS, seu REGIA VULG. C. B. *The Walnut Tree.*

Is unjustly omitted in both Dispensatories, but well worthy of being retained, if only for the oil of the nut, as being a more concentrated oil, or having less watry particles than that of Olives or Almonds; and on that account, as also from observation,

preferred in clysters for colic pains, and as an anthelmintic ; in both which cases it is famous.

*E.* KERMES SUCCUS.

Is justly retained in the *London Dispensatory*, supplying us with a grateful cordial called *Confectio Alkermes*.

*L. & E.* LAC LUNÆ.

It may deserve a place in an *Irish Materia Medica* (being very frequent in our quarries in the county of *Dublin*), as well as it did in that of *Paris*, under the name of *Agaricus mineralis*, or *Medulla saxi*; and the rather, as we have not yet discovered any real Chalk in *Ireland*, to which this may occasionally be a substitute. It is the *Terra Selenusia* of the Ancients, according to Doctor *Hill* and *Mendez da Costa*,

*Costa*, and an excellent and powerful absorbent in diseases proceeding from acid, and in hæmorrhages, diarrhœas, and dysenteries.

*L.*      LEVISTICI SEM. *Lovage.*

Is justly retained in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory, being an aromatic, like *Angelica*, though of a stronger scent, especially the root and seed; and the whole plant abounds with a yellow gum-resinous juice, said to be like *Opopanax*. The leaf or root might be added to the seed; because, being bruised, and applied with meal, salt, and wine, they are said to be an excellent discutient in external application; and the root and seed are much recommended as excellent carminatives, diuretics, and emmenagogues.

L. & E. LIGUSTRUM GERMANICUM, C. B. *Privet.*

Although omitted in both Dispensatories, are worthy of a place at least in an *Irish Materia Medica*, being very frequent in our hedges; the leaves and flowers agreeing in sensible qualities, being of a mild grateful smell, of a bitter astringent taste, with a degree of acrimony, and found to be detergent and healing: and *Celsus* orders the leaves to be chewed, and the juice to be kept in the mouth, in ulcers of the gums; and in ulcerated *apht hæ* the decoction or juice, with honey, is much recommended as a gargle.



L. LILIUM ALBUM FLORE  
ERECTO VULG. C. B.  
*White Lily.*

L&E. LILIUM CONVALLIUM AL-  
BUM, C. B. *Lily Con-*  
*vally, or May Lily.*

The root of the first is justly retained in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, being an excellent suppurative, and in some cases preferable to the Marsh-mallow — being more discutient as well as emollient ; and the flowers of the second are worthy of a place here, not only as an excellent errhine, but for a most grateful smell and very bitter taste ; and they are said to be infused and drank like tea, or taken in a conserve, in dejection of spirits and other nervous disorders,

*L. & E.* LINARIA VULG. LUTEA  
FLORE MAJORE, C. B.  
*Common Yellow Toad-  
flax.*

Is frequent in our gardens, and worth retaining, having the smell of Elder, and resembling it in virtues: it is applied outwardly in inflammations and erysipelases—being emollient, resolving, and anodyne, and greatly recommended in a cataplasm and fomentation in hæmorrhoidal pains.

*L.* LINGUA CERVINA OFFI-  
CIN. SCOLOPENDRIUM  
PHARM. EDIN. *Hart's-  
tongue.*

The College of *Edinburgh* not unjustly retains it, being a sweet astringent; and the powder, or a conserve of it, is much recommended by good  
autho-

authority in the palpitation of the heart. and hystERIC spasms.

*L. & E.* LINUM SYLV. CATHARTICUM GER. LINUM PRATENSE FLOSCULIS EXIGUIS, C. B. *Purging or Wild Dwarf Flax, or Mill Mountain.*

Is well worthy of a place here, as one of our domestic purges, for its frequency, efficacy, and usefulness—having in its operation, in some trials, proved superior to the common exotic purges. It is given in the dose of one drachm of the leaves in substance, or a small handful infused or boiled in beer or wine.

*L. LU=*

L. LUPULUS MAS & FOEM.

C. B. *Hops.*

Was justly adopted by *Lewis* in his *Materia Medica*, and in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory* of 1735, though omitted in the last—being not only used, in the dietetic way, in correcting the tendency of our malt liquors to a viscid and acid state, but also, as an aromatic bitter, undoubtedly applicable to many good purposes ; and perhaps the extract of it, especially made with spirit of wine, may be equal, if not superior in some cases, to that of *Gentian*—being balsamic, bitter, and astringent.

L. & E.



L. & E. LYSIMACHIA SPICATA  
 PURPUREA, C. B. *Purple  
 Spiked Willow Herb, or  
 Loose Strife.*

This, though not mentioned by either College, challenges a place, at least in an *Irish Materia Medica*, both for its great frequency, and for the usefulness of the leaf and root in the cure of dysenteries, being powerfully astringent.

L. & E. MALVA SYLV. PUMILA  
 GER. SYLV. FOL. ROTUNDO, C. B. *Small  
 Wild Mallow, or Dwarf  
 Mallow.*

Is worthy of notice for its frequency, and as the root may be a good and useful *succedaneum* to that of Marsh-mallow, and is equally mucilaginous.

L. & E.

*L. & E.* MALUS HORTENSIS & SYL-  
VESTRIS, *The Apple and*  
*Crab Tree.*

Are unjustly rejected in both Dispensatories. To say nothing of the use of the Apple as a pectoral, and in diet in hectic and phthifical cases, the pulp of it, either boiled or putrid, in pains and inflammations in the eyes (and the latter by putrefaction acquiring a degree of resolving power), is useful; and the juice of the Wild is a good astringent gargle in ulcers of the mouth and throat, and relaxations of the uvula.

*L. & E.* MARRUBIUM NIGRUM FOETIDUM, BALLOTE DIOSCORIDIS, C. B. *Stinking Horehound.*

It is much more frequent with us than the White, though far less grateful

ful in smell, and though omitted by both Colleges, is worthy of notice---being fetid, bitter, and acrid, and its juice approaching more to an alcali than that of several other bitters; and the decoction, or rather the strong infusion, is much recommended in hysterical and hypochondriacal cases; and the lixivium or ley in which it has been boiled is recommended by *Tragus* as an excellent wash in the scald-head in children.

E.      MATRICARIA VULG. *Feverfew.*

Is justly retained in the *London Dispensatory*. By every sensible quality it appears to be an active medicine, and that it hath not forfeited its *Latin* appellation of *Matricaria*, but deserves a place among the principal of our anti-hysterics and emmenagogues, and  
is

is of signal use, applied in hot bags to the abdomen, in after-pains, and in pains attending the menses.

E. MEL, *Honey*.

Deserves a place here as the basis of several useful compositions, as *Mel rosarum* and *Oxymel scillitium*, altho' omitted by the *Edinburgh* College.

L. & E. MELILOTUS OFFICINAR.

GERMANIÆ, C. B.

*Common Melilot.*

For its frequency, emollient, mildly discutient, and anodyne virtues in cataplasms, fomentations, and clysters, deserves a place here; and the juice of the flowers dropt into the eye is said to take away pearls.

L. ME-



L. MEZEREON, five CHAME-  
LÆA OFFIC. LAUREO-  
LA FOLIO DECIDUO,  
FLORE PURPUREO, OF-  
FICINIS LAUREOLA FOE-  
MINA, C. B. *Mezere-*  
*um, or Spurge Olive.*

The bark of the root is justly adopt-  
ed, by the *Edinburgh* College, for its  
newly discovered virtues of curing  
venereal nodes as an alterative; one  
ounce of it being boiled in a gallon  
and a half to a gallon of water, adding  
an ounce of the root of Liquorice---  
the dose half a pint, four times in the  
day. See *Medical Observations and*  
*Enquiries*, Vol. III.

L. MIL-

*L.*      MILLEFOLIUM VULG. AL-  
                              BUM, C. B. *Common*  
                              *Yarrow or Milfoil.*

According to *Stahl* and *Hoffman*, the flowers yield by distillation an oil of a beautiful colour, like Sapphire, which is the seat of their sedative and anti-spasmodic virtue; the mere infusion in water also being of great efficacy in the cholic, and other disorders from spasms.

*E.*      MINIUM, *Red Lead.*

The *London* College have a plaster of it: its virtues as a dryer and corrector of acrimony, in external application, are acknowledged.

*E.* MORUS

E. MORUS FRUCTU NIGRO,  
C. B. *The Mulberry.*

The fruit supplies us with a grateful syrup, which the *London College* justly retain.

L. & E. NARCISSUS SYLV. PALLIDUS CALYCE LUTEO,  
C. B. *The Wild English Daffodil.*

I have added this, though neither of the Colleges have mentioned it, because it is one of our indigenous Emetics, perhaps a *congener* to the *Bulbus Vomitorius* of the Ancients; and *Dioscorides*, *Clusius*, and *Lobel*, affirm the root of every *Narcissus* to be emetic; but according to *Donæus*, it should be given in a large dose; for he says, That it has been experienced that two drachms of it, fresh and newly gathered, being boil-

ed in wine or water with a little anise,  
or fennel-seed or ginger, purge vis-  
cous phlegm by stool.

*E.*      *NEPETA, MENTHA CATA-*  
            *RIA VULGARIS & MA-*  
            *JOR, C. B.    Nep or*  
            *Catmint.*

Is justly retained in the *London*  
College: it has a smell mixt of aro-  
matic and fetid, is of a sharp hot  
taste, abounding with essential oil,  
and is one of the best of our emmena-  
gogues, and in diseases of the lungs,  
equal, if not superior, to Peniroyal.

*E.*      *NICOTIANA MAJOR LATI-*  
            *FOLIA, C. B.    Tobacco.*

Is justly retained in the *London*  
College, and as we are lately become  
fond of converting poisons into effi-  
cacious medicines, may be safely ad-  
mitted



mitted in this view both in external and internal use ; so that this article may contend with Hemlock in its efficacy in the cure of some rebellious disorders.—Suffice it to exemplify its usefulness by observing, That a decoction of the leaves from two to six drachms is given as a stimulating clyster in apoplexies ; and that for internal use it is by medical sagacity deprived of its emetic quality, and may be rendered either purgative, diaphoretic, diuretic, or pectoral, according to the degrees of boiling it has undergone. Thus, an ounce of the leaves is ordered to be boiled in a quart of water to the consumption of half, as an expectorant.

*E.* OLEUM OLIVARUM. *Oil of Olives.*

It is justly retained by the *London College*, and its usefulness well known.

*E.* ORIGANUM, CUNILA BUBULA, C. B. *Wild Marjoram.*

Is also justly retained by the *London College*.—It is one of our indigenous aromatics, and signally useful, if for nothing else, for its essential oil, which is sharper than oil of Cloves, and almost caustic; and justly celebrated in the tooth-ach, being put into the hollow of the tooth on cotton, or if it prove too sharp, mixt with a little oil of sweet Almonds.

*E.* OVUM

E. OVUM GALLINACEUM,  
*Hen's Egg.*

To say nothing of its yolk or white, the College of *London* justly adopts it—the shell being a powerful absorbent of acids, and a ready *succedaneum* for other medicines of that class.

L. & E. OXYLAPATHUM, LAPATHUM FOLIO ACUTO,  
 QUOD OXYLAPATHUM DIOSCORIDI ET PLINIO,  
 C. B. *Sharp-pointed Dock.*

Merits a place here for the sake of its root, and for its frequency (being with us much more common than the *Hydrolapathum*) and mild purgative quality like Rhubarb, being astringent withal, and tinging the urine like it, and may be given in a double or greater dose.—The decoction

tion also is recommended as a lotion in the itch and other cutaneous diseases, joined to its internal use in the same cases.

E. PÆONIA MAS & FOEMINA,  
C. B. *Male and female*  
*Piony.*

The root has been much celebrated in convulsive disorders, and according to *Galen*, and some respectable authors among the Moderns, has been effectual, even by the *effluvia*, being worn about the necks of children ; and the College of *London*, in this instance, seem to shew a regard for antiquity in retaining it, though the *Edinburgh* have rejected it. Perhaps the sensible qualities of the plant may give some light into this matter. The fresh root is of a strong smell, which is by some compared to that of the Poppy—  
of



of a sweetish, subacid, bitterish, and subastringent taste, and the decoction of it turns blackish, with *Vitriolum Martis*.—Is it not therefore entitled to some sedative, demulcent, and tonic powers?

*E.*      PAPAVER RHÆAS DIOSCORIDIS, C. B. *Red Poppy, or Corn Rose.*

*E.*      PARALYSIS, VERBASCULUM PRATENSE ODORATUM, C. B. *Cowslips.*

The *London* College have given us a syrup of the flowers of each of these, being much milder paregorics than the white Poppy—thus affording us a useful variety; the milder being in divers cases preferable, and often wanted in a weak state of nerves, though the *Edinburgh* have thought

fit to give us only the syrup of the White Poppy.

E. PENTAPHYLLUM QUIN-  
QUEFOLIUM MAJUS,  
C. B. *Cinquefoil*.

The *London* College have also adopted the root of this, which indeed is astringent and bitter as the *Cortex Peruvianus*, both in substance, decoction, and extract, and is celebrated by all antiquity in the cure of intermitting fevers; and the Moderns have confirmed this, a drachm being given before the fit: 'tis pity but this and several other of our astringent bitters were given in more liberal doses, and oftener repeated in this case.

L. & E.

L. &amp; E. PERSICA MALUS, C. B.

*Peach Tree.*

An infusion, twenty-four hours, of a pound of the flowers to three pints of boiling water, sweetened with two pounds and a half of sugar, and boiled up to the consistence of syrup, has been given, from two drachms to one ounce, as a gentle puke to children, and commonly purges a little; one ounce of the conserve is said to be given for the like purpose.—The above is a very operose and expensive preparation; but it is worthy of observation, that the leaves, which in bitterness and fine flavour agree to the flowers, and withal are more easily procured, were a medicine known to the Ancients, and by them bruised and applied to the navel to kill worms; and the Moderns have given them internally, boiled in milk, for the same purpose,

purpose, and prepared a syrup of them, which is also laxative in operation.

L. & E. PERSICARIA ACRIS, seu  
HYDROPIPER, C. B.  
*Water Pepper.*

May supply the place of a blister or sinapism, externally applied.

L. & E. PETASITES MAJOR &  
VULG. C. B. *Butter  
Burr. Hibernicè Pubbol.*

The root deserves to be retained by reason of its frequency, and as a strong aromatic, having cells replete with a native balsam, and being diaphoretic. Moreover, *Welschius*, cited by *Emanuel Konig*, says, That the powder sprinkled on venereal warts destroys them as effectually as Savine.

L. & E.



L. & E. PETROSELINUM VULGARE,  
 seu APIUM HORTENSE;  
 C. B. *Garden Parsley.*

The *London* College adopt only the seed, and the *Edinburgh* the root only; which root has one advantage beyond several other diuretics, that it promotes urine without heating. Moreover, the leaves are not unworthy of a place here; for being bruised, they are applied as a cataplasm for dissolving blood coagulated in contusions, and milk concreted in the breasts of women.

L. & E. PINUS SATIVA, C. B. *The Cultivated Pine.*

L. & E. PINUS SYLV. C. B. PINASTER OFFIC. *The Mountain Pine.*

The tops of the leaves, like those of Fir, in decoction, are greatly commended

mended in scorbutic cases, See ABIES. The *Kernels* are an ancient medicine worthy of being revived, being sweet, more grateful than Almonds, and almost as pleasant as Pistach Nuts, and of great use in emulsions, as very nourishing, and correcting acrimony.

*E.* PIX LIQUIDA. . *Tar.*

Furnishes a useful ointment, the *Ung. de Pice* ; and that it is possessed of considerable virtues in internal use must be acknowledged, as in the *Pilulæ de Pice* of *Bate's Pharmacopæia* and *Tar Water*.

*L.* POLYGONATUM LATIFOLIUM, C. B. *Solomon's Seal.*

Is omitted by the *London College*, by which means we might be deprived of one of the most eminent of the  
cosmetics

cosmetics ; the root of this having, by Ancients and Moderns, been strongly recommended as such, being boiled in wine or water and applied—having a mild detergent quality, and its decoction particularly useful as a lotion to take away freckles ; besides that, a cataplasm of it is a good discutient, dissolving coagulated blood in bruises.

L.&E. POPULUS NIGRA, C. B.

*The Black Poplar.*

Notwithstanding the just rejection of the Poplar Buds, in the *Unguentum Populneum*, as subservient to the intention of a cooler or repellent ; yet as the buds coming forth early in the spring afford a balsam or resin of a fragrant smell resembling *Storax*, and dissoluble in spirit of wine, the Poplar deserves to be retained, as this balsam may be useful for other purposes ;

posés ; and accordingly I find its tincture, in spirit of wine, taken to one drachm in broth morning and evening, recommended in inveterate diarrhæas ; and indeed *Dioscorides* mentions the *Lachryma Populi*, and recommends it in fluxes of the belly.

L. & E. PORRUM CAPITATUM,  
C. B. *Leeks.*

Deserves a place in a *Materia Medica*, both for its frequency and usefulness, with which the Ancients were well acquainted, both in reference to diet and medicine, and particularly as an emmenagogue ; and *Hippocrates* ordered the juice to be drank for this purpose.

L. & E.



L. & E. PRIMULA VERIS, VERBASCULUM SYLVESTRE MAJUS SINGULARI FLORE, C. B. *Primrose.*

Besides the use of the leaves as a snuff, the root, gathered in autumn and dried, taken to the quantity of a drachm and a half in ale or wine, are a good vomit, like the *Asarabacca*, but safe, according to *Gerard*.

L. & E. PRUNELLA MAJOR FOLIIS NON DISSECTO, C. B. *Brunella Self-heal.*

Seems to be a plant worthy of attention. The juice is slightly saline and viscid: *Boerhaave* says it is like *Scabious* in virtues, saponaceous, and contains something salino-nitrous, relaxing, and withal aperient, and therefore good in all inflammations, and in diseases from rigidity. It was  
anciently

anciently in great use among the *Irish*, being given in whey in the fever they called *Little Fever*, and from thence they gave the plant the name of *Kean-navanbeug*. The decoction is used in inflammations of the mouth and throat, and in ulcers of the mouth and *Aphthæ* as a gargle, and is cooling, slightly detergent and healing: and in one of the worst of *Quinsys*, tending to gangrene, called by the *Germans* *De Brun*, it is much in request, from whence the plant obtained the name of *Brunella*.—I found it to yield a very large quantity of lixivial salt, viz. from a drachm and an half and fifteen grains I obtained two scruples twelve grains.

L. & E. PRUNUS SYLV. C. B. *The  
Sloe Tree, or Black  
Thorn.*

It is indeed mentioned in the *London* Dispensatory, but only for the sake of the fruit; whereas the *flowers* deserve our notice not less, being, when fresh gathered and repeatedly infused in whey or wine, and gently boiled with sugar, a good mild purge for children, and are much more easily procured than either Peach Blossoms or Peach Leaves, to which they agree in the fine ratafia flavour and bitterness. I do not find the dose altogether ascertained; but *Albinus* in a MSS. asserts, that infused in beer or wine they are a pretty strong purge. See PERSICA MALUS above.

H

L. QUERCUS

*L.* QUERCUS CUM LONGO PEDICULO, C. B. *Common Oak.*

The inner bark between the outward one and the wood, as also the internal pellicle of the Acorn, is much recommended in gonorrhæas, hæmoptoes, and fluxes from the belly and womb. Its frequency and usefulness ought to recommend it: a tincture may be made of it with spirit of wine as well as with water, which agrees with *Grew's* observation of its resiniferous vessels.

*L. & E.*



L. & E. RANUNCULUS PRATENSIS  
 RADICE VERTICILLI  
 MODO ROTUNDA. *Bul-*  
*bous Crow-foot.*

L. & E. RANUNCULUS LONGIFO-  
 LIUS PALUSTRIS MA-  
 JOR, C. B. RANUN-  
 CULUS FLAMMEUS OF-  
 FIC. *Great Spearwort,*  
*Dale.*

Both these, although omitted in both Dispensatories, are worthy of notice. *Hippocrates*, indeed, gave the leaves and flowers of some of the *Ranunculi*, infused in sweet wine, as an emmenagogue; but they are scarce known to us any otherwise than as blisters; and the last I have known to be stronger than *Cantharides*, with this advantage, that it did not produce a strangury.—The *Ranunculus*, how-  


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 ever, may perhaps merit the attention

of Physicians on another account, viz. That whereas I have in the subsequent Observations on Distilled Waters, shewn by positive experiments, that the bulbous *Ranunculus* and the *Pratensis Erectus Acris* give a distilled water whose acrimony is quite different from that of those called the hot Antiscorbutics, which is extremely volatile; whereas that of the aforesaid *Ranunculi* is of a fixed nature, and indeed like that of the *Pulsatilla nigricans*; and as these *Ranunculi* resemble the *Anemone* in their caustic acrimony, of which *Anemone* the *Pulsatilla nigricans* is a species, I query whether or no, with regard to the powerful effects ascribed by Dr. Stork to the *Pulsatilla nigricans*, these *Ranunculi* might not be tried, particularly their distilled water, as substitutes to the *Aqua Pulsatillæ* in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*; and the rather, because

because they are much more common, and far more easily procured. Some of the Ancients gave *Anemone* diluted in Ptisan in obstructions of the Menfes, as *Hippocrates* \* did the *Ranunculus* in wine, as above, in the same case.

L. & E. RAPA SATIVA ROTUNDA,

C. B. *Turneps.*

Deserve to be adopted even as an article of medicine. The juice of the root deposits a yellow substance like Honey, and equally sweet; and the same juice expressed and clarified with honey is an excellent remedy against all ulcers of the mouth, and particularly *Aphthæ*; and in internal use it is a good pectoral, being boiled either alone or with Raisins and Figs, and drank like Ptisan in tickling coughs, and those of children. It yields an

\* De Natura Muliebri.



elegant syrup, being sliced, and sprinkled with Loaf-sugar, mentioned in *Bate's Dispensatory*.

*L. & E.* RAPHANUS HORTENSIS,  
RADICULA OFFIC. RA-  
PHANUS MINOR OBLON-  
GUS, C. B. *Radish*.

This is not mentioned by either of the Colleges; but as it is one of our domestic vomits (as well as the Horse-radish), it deserves a place here. It was not unknown to the Ancients as an emetic; and as such it is mild in operation, and safe in all ages; for which purpose two ounces of the fresh root are bruised, and water and Honey being poured on it, the juice is expressed and given warm.



L. & E. RHAPONTICUM FOLIO LAPATHI MAJORIS GLABRO, RHA ET RHEUM DIOSCORIDIS. C. B.

*Rhapontic.*

Notwithstanding that both Colleges have shewn so little veneration for antiquity, as to pass by in silence this plant, which is the celebrated *Rha* or *Rheum* of *Dioscorides*, I should deem it inexcusable in me to suppress the mention of it, both on account of its frequency and usefulness, being cultivated in our gardens; superior to Rhubarb in astringency, and equal to it in the purgative quality, if given in a double dose. In substance it is given to two drachms, in infusion to three drachms, and it tinges the urine like Rhubarb.

L. & E. RIBESIA, GROSSULARIA  
MULTIPLICI ACINO-  
NON SPINOSA HORTEN-  
SIS RUBRA, RIBES OF-  
FIC. C. B. *Red Cur-  
rants.*

The juice exhibits a grateful acid worth preserving. See the Observations on *Extracts* and *Robs*; and a jelly is ordered of it in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory* 1756, which is a very grateful one; and the jelly made of the juice of the Black Currants is said to be excellent in inflammations of the throat.

L. RICINUS VULG. C. B.

The oil expressed from the seed is a medicine well known to the Ancients, and now happily revived, and therefore justly adopted by the *Edinburgh*

*burgh* College. Compare *Balanus Myrepsica* above.

E. RUBUS IDÆUS SPINOSUS. C. B.

*The Raspberry-bush.*

The *London* College have very justly adopted the fruit of this, though omitted by the *Edinburgh*; it yielding a most grateful acid in taste and flavour, far superior to that of the common Bramble. It supplies us with a most grateful syrup and rob retaining the flavour.

L. & E. RUBUS VULG. SIVE RUBUS

FRUCTU NIGRO, RUBUS

DIOSCORIDI & PLINIO,

C. B. *The Bramble, or, Black Berry-bush.*

Is worthy to be inserted for the sake of the leaves, for their frequency and usefulness as a gargle, and by the simple



simple operation of chewing strengthening lax gums, and healing ulcerations in the mouth; and the tops boiled in wine are recommended as a lotion in deep and inveterate ulcers of the legs.

L. & E. RUSCUS, C. B. BRUSCUS,  
*Butcher's Broom.*

The root hath not by any of its sensible qualities (being of a somewhat aromatic smell, of a sweetish, bitterish, sub-acrid, and sub-astringent taste) forfeited its character as one of the five opening roots, and is much recommended by Authors of repute as a diuretic in dropfical and nephritic disorders, and is found wild in the neighbourhood of *Dublin*.



L. & E. SALIX VULG. ALBA ARBO-  
RESCENS, C. B. *Com-  
mon Willow.*

This, though omitted by both Colleges, deserves a place here, both for its frequency and virtues, being possessed of the like sensible qualities, viz. astringency and bitterness, as the celebrated *Peruvian Bark*; and tho' it cannot be affirmed to be equal to it, yet that one drachm of it alone has been taken every four hours in the intervals of intermittent fevers with good success, we are assured by good authority \*. It may not be improper to add here, that although the *Salix* be not considered by the Ancients in any other light than as an astringent, yet we have one species of it which may be worthy of particular

\* Phil. Transf. vol. LIII.

notice, as belonging to the class of aromatic bitters, and withal astringent, viz. the *Salix folio laureo seu lato glabro odorato*, or, Bay-leaved sweet Willow. *Raii Synops*, having, besides the bitterness and astringency common to several other of the species of the Willow, a grateful smell like that of the Bay-leaf.

*L. & E.* SALVIA AGRESTIS. *C. B.*  
*Wood Sage.*

Abounds with us, and from its sensible qualities, viz. a strong scent and very bitter taste, with an astringency, may be presumed to be possessed of great virtues in internal as well as external use. *Hildanus* celebrates it for the healing of gangrenous ulcers; and in internal use it was a great favourite of the famous  
Dr.

Dr. *Baynard*, in the cure of cachectic disorders.

L. & E. SAMBUCUS FRUCTU IN  
UMBELLA NIGRO, C. B.

*Common Elder.*

Both Colleges have forgot the leaves, which are worth retaining for their great frequency and usefulness; the fresh leaves bruised and applied, by their emollient, gently discutient, and anodyne quality, being very good in burns, and in appeasing the pains of the hæmorrhoids; also half an ounce of the leaves, or a handful of the young leaves or tender tops, in broth, or boiled like kail in water with salt, purge gently. The inner bark, which is omitted in the *London* College, is one of our drastic purges, being given to half an ounce in substance,



stance, and one ounce in the juice, or one ounce infused in six ounces of water.

*L. & E.* SANICULA OFFIC. *C. B.*

*Sanicle.*

Its sensible qualities, viz. a gentle bitterness and acrimony, joined to some degree of astringency, countenance the justness of its appellation; and the praises attributed to it in curing wounds, and putrid ulcers, being washed with the decoction.

*E.* SAPO, *Soap.*

Surely was justly retained in the *London Dispensatory*, and in that of *Edinburgh* 1756, for its well-known use and efficacy internally in liberal doses, as to an ounce or an ounce and a half daily, particularly in calculous cases.

*L. & E.*



L. & E. SAPONARIA CONCAVA AN-  
GLICA. C. B. *Hollow-  
leaved Soap-wort.*

Is frequent in the neighbourhood of *Dublin*, and promises to be useful internally as well as externally, having derived its name from its effect of taking grease out of cloaths, the leaves being agitated with water yielding a saponaceous juice, which is dissolved in spirit of wine as well as water, and therefore is not merely mucilaginous : they are bitter, and not without acrimony, and being put into issues draw the humour more plentifully than Ivy leaves, and are used as a cosmetic in baths and lotions for the skin.

L. & E.

*L. & E.* SCABIOSA PRATENSIS HIR-  
SUTA QUÆ OFFICINA-  
RUM, C. B. *Scabious*.

Both the Colleges have thrown it out, having no regard to the etymology of the name from its efficacy in baths in the itch and impetiginous disorders, nor attending to the nature of its juice, as being mildly saponaceous; and though not wholly without some degree of acrimony and bitterness, yet void of any inflaming acrimony. Accordingly *Boerhaave* greatly extols this plant in pleurifies and other inflammatory diseases, and in the asthma and coughs, as cleansing and promoting expectoration, being taken in decoction with Honey.

*L. & E.*

L. & E. SCROPHULARIA NODOSA  
FOETIDA, C. B. *Fig-  
wort.*

L. & E. SCROPHULARIA AQUATICA  
MAJOR, C. B. BETO-  
NICA AQUATICA, *Wa-  
ter Betony.*

These are now rejected by both the Colleges, altho' not less useful than common; for the leaves of the second are a corrector of the Sena, two drachms of them being added to three of Sena, for this purpose, in the *Infusum Senæ* of the *Edinburgh Dispensatory* 1735. They both abound with a foetid oil, and are much like Elder, as in smell, so in their resolvent and anodyne quality, externally applied, particularly in resolving scrophulous tumors (whence they obtained their name), and in the pain of the hæ-  
I morrhoids;



morrhoids; for which purpose an ointment may be made of the juice with Oil and Wax.

*L. & E.* SECALE HYBERNUM vel  
MAJUS, C. B. *Rye.*

Is justly retained in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory* 1735, tho' omitted in the last, even for the sake of its meal, and particularly for its use in cataplasms, applied to inflamed parts, where there is a tendency to putrefaction, as being emollient, discutient, and powerfully antiseptic; having this peculiar, that it turns sour sooner than the meal of Wheat or Barley; and for the same reason, decoctions made either of the grains of Rye or Rye-bread, adding a little of the juice of Citron and Wine, give a very grateful and proper drink in putrid fevers.

*L. & E.*



L. & E. SEDUM MAJUS VULG.  
C. B. *House-leek.*

L. & E. SEDUM MINUS LUTEUM,  
C. B. *Yellow Stone Crop.*

L. & E. SEDUM MINUS VERMICU-  
LATUM ACRE, C. B.  
*Wall Pepper, or, Stone  
Crop.*

All these three have the sanction of Antiquity for their use, tho' omitted by both Colleges. *Bate*, in his *Pharmacopœia*, gives a whey prepared of a pint of the juice of the first to a quart of Milk, of which he gives a pint or two every day in bilious fevers, as cooling and quenching thirst; and in cancers, the fresh-drawn juice rubbed with powder of *Pompholyx* in a leaden mortar, and applied to the breasts, is a good palliative: but the

third is one of our domestic vesicatories, being sharper than Arsmart, and a strong vomit ; and in the *Miscellanea Curiosa* is mentioned as such, a handful being boiled in a pint of old Beer, in a covered vessel, to the consumption of half ; and two or three ounces given for a dose.

*L. & E.* SERPYLLUM VULG. MINUS, C. B. *Mother of Thyme.*

Is one of our indigenous aromatics, well worthy of a place here, being grateful like Thyme, but milder and subastringent ; and is said to retain its scent unconquered by the digestive powers ; and that its infusion hath been effectual in the cure of divers stubborn nervous diseases ; and it affords a good distilled water.

*E.* SEVUM

E. SEVUM OVILLUM, *Sheep's Suet.*

Its usefulness in ointments and plasters is acknowledged, as also in clysters.

L. STRAMONIUM OFFIC. Dale.  
SOLANUM FOETIDUM  
POMO SPINOSO OBLONGO, C. B. *Thorn Apple of Peru.*

Is justly adopted by the *Edinburgh College*. It is cultivated in our gardens, and well worth a place here for the singular use of the juice of the leaves boiled in Hog's-lard to the form of an ointment, in all inflammations and in burns, whether by fire, water, gunpowder, or lightning; though it is not to be given internally without caution, being in operation similar to some other *Solanums*: how-

ever, in some late experiments made at *Stockholm*, it appears to have been given internally, from half a grain to six or eight grains in a day, in convulsive cases, as a sedative.

*L. & E.* SUCCISA & GLABRA HIR-  
SUTA, C. B. MORSUS  
DIABOLI, *Devil's Bit.*

Is pretty frequent, and a strong bitter and subastringent, both in the leaf and root, and undoubtedly applicable to many good purposes; and it has this phenomenon, in particular, to recommend it, That the juice, like that of *Centaury*, shews a greater affinity to alcalis than acids. The leaves and root are used in gargles, in inveterate tumors and inflammations of the throat, and in venereal and other ulcers; attenuating viscid humours, and withal hav-  
ing



ing some degree of a repellent quality.

E. TEREBINTHINA ARGENTORATENSIS, *Straßburgh Turpentine*.

E. TEREBINTHINA È CHIO.

These are more grateful than the *Veneta*, especially the Chio Turpentine, which was the true Turpentine of the Ancients ; and for its fragrancy and superior gratefulness, it is in many cases preferable to the *Veneta*.

E. THLASPI ARVENSE SILIQUIS LACTIS, *Treacle Mustard*.

The *London Dispensatory* specifies two sorts ; one of which has little acrimony in comparison of the above ; which last, therefore, ought alone to have been specified, being worthy of

a place among those called the hot antiscorbutics, as Mustard, Scurvy-grafs, &c.

*E. THUS VULGARE. Frankincense.*

The *London* College justly retain it, as entering into several of their plasters; but there is another familiar use of it, mentioned by *Baglivi*, viz. in ulcerations, sometimes excited by blisters, and difficult to be healed, that the powder finely levigated, being sprinkled on the part twice a-day, succeeds well.

*L. THYMUS CAPITATUS QUI DIOSCORIDIS, C. B. The true Thyme of the Ancients.*

To this the *London* Dispensatory substitutes another plant; and that not a *Thymus*, but a *Serpyllum*, viz. the

the *Serpyllum foliis Citri odore*, C. B. commonly called *Lemon Thyme*; for which preference I know no better reason than the Citron or Lemon-like smell: whereas the Ancients attributed great virtues to their *Thymus*, being, indeed, a grateful warm aromatic and subastringent; and as such, applicable to many good purposes, and gives more essential oil than the *Serpyllum*. Add to this, that it is undoubtedly of the *Thymus* above-named that all former Writers on the *Materia Medica* are to be understood.

E. *TILIA FOEMINA FOLIO MAJORE*, C. B. *Lime Tree*.

The flowers seem to be justly retained by the *London College*, being of a sweet smell, gently aromatic, and of a grateful flavour; and are much recom-

recommended, both in conserves and distilled water, in nervous and hysterical cases.

L. & E. TITHYMALUS HELIOS-  
COPIUS, C. B. *Sun*  
*Spurge, or, Wartwort.*

Tho' both Colleges are silent as to the *Tithymals*, being indeed rejected by reason of their caustic acrimony; yet, in some desperate cases, being properly diluted, and their acrimony blunted by mucilaginous liquors (or being given in a Fig, as the Ancients did), they may be admitted.—

The Sun-Spurge, above specified, is reckoned one of the mildest; and the powder of the root of some of them (being reckoned the mildest part) was given successfully by Dr. *Michaelis* in an obstinate costiveness in a Boy, which had not given way to the  
strongest



strongest cathartics. *Prevotius* gives from five to twelve drops of the milk for a dose.

*L. & E.* TRITICUM HYBERNUM  
ARISTIS CARENS, C. B.  
*White or Red Wheat*  
*without awns.*

The *London* College omitted four, and the *Edinburgh* five of its productions of considerable use in practice, and which for their frequency are worthy to be adopted, viz.

1. ANYLUM, *the Starch*; a very useful medicine.

2. FURFUR, *Bran*; which is of no small use both externally and internally, as an emollient and gently detergent medicine; and no bad ingredient in pectoral ptisans, clysters, and gargles in sore throats.

3. FER-

3. FERMENTUM, *Leaven and Barm.*

Proper ingredients, in maturing cataplasms, and to be added to sinapisms.

4. PANIS, *Bread.* It is preferable to the mere Meal, by reason of the barm, or leaven, and salt combined, which give it a greater activity than the mere Meal, which is fitter for hotter phlegmons; whereas this succeeds better in inflammations difficult to be suppurated\*; and being moistened with water, and mixed with oil or butter, and boiled to a proper consistence, doubtless is equal to many operose ointments and plasters.

\* So it is observed, that Wheat chewed and applied to felons brings them to suppuration, viz. by reason of the saliva mixt; for if it be mixed with water, it will not have the same effect.

To these may be added,

5. An Oil extracted from it, which is recommended by the Ancients in impetiginous disorders; and prepared by bruising the grains of Wheat between red-hot plates of iron or brass, and strong pressure; which yields an oil, that is also mentioned in *Bate's Dispensatory*, and strongly recommended in the herpes, and other asperities of the skin, fissures in the lips or hands, and ulcers of the feet.

L. & E. VACCINIA PALUSTRIA  
GER. VITIS IDEA PAL-  
LUSTRIS, C. B. *Marsh*  
*Whortle-Berries, Moor-*  
*Berries, or Bog-Berries.*

Are worthy of a place here, tho' omitted by both Colleges, being of a grateful acidity, quenching thirst, and cooling in feverish heats.

E. VA-

E. VALERIANA SYLV. MAJOR,  
C. B. *Mountain Va-*  
*lerian.*

L. & E. VALERIANA HORTEN-  
SIS. PHU FOLIO OLU-  
SATRI DIOSCORIDIS,  
C. B. *Garden Valerian.*

L. VALERIANA SYLV. MAJOR.  
C. B. *Great Wild Va-*  
*lerian.*

The College of *London* have adopt-  
ed the first, being stronger than the  
others; though they all agree in their  
sensible qualities in general; and the  
two others, especially the last, may be  
given in a larger dose: however, as  
the two last are frequent and much  
more easily procured, and the root of  
the *Garden Valerian* is stronger than  
the Common Wild; and withal, as it  
comes



comes nearest to the description of the ancient *Phu* of *Dioscorides*, it certainly merits a place here ; nor ought the Common Great Wild Valerian to be omitted.

L. VERBASCUM MAS LATIFOLIUM  
LUTEUM, C. B. VER-  
BASCUM ALBUM VUL-  
GARE, Park. *White*  
*Mullein*, Raii Synops.

The leaves and flowers of this plant, though omitted in the *London Dispensatory*, are celebrated, in external use (being boiled in water), for their anodyne quality in pains attending inflammations and abscesses in the eyes, anus, and genitals ; and therefore not unworthy of being adopted.

L. & E.

L. & E. VERBENA COMMUNIS FLORE  
COERULEO, C. B. *Common Vervain.*

Is worthy our regard, the juice and infusion being bitter, and withal somewhat astringent; which countenances the tradition left us by the Ancients of its use in intermittent fevers, confirmed by *Chomel*; who says, that it is used by rustics for this purpose, in the dose of half an ounce of the extract, or four ounces of the juice of the leaves.

L. & E. VERONICA MAS SUPINA ET  
VULGATISSIMA, C. B.  
*Male Speedwell.*

The *London* College have thought fit to retain only the *Veronica fœmina* of *Mathiolum*, under the denomination of *Elatine*; but this last is very scarce, whereas the *Mas* is frequent. It is  
mildly

mildly bitter and moderately astringent, and by the testimony of all authors possessed at least of equal virtues with the other ; deterging and healing in malignant ulcers ; and in a certain cancerous ulcer, I was witness to its good effects applied by way of cataplasm, where it changed the fanious humor to a laudable *Pus* ; and *Hoffman* strongly recommends it as a deobstruent in infarctions of any of the viscera : moreover, it has been particularly recommended in asthmas, and even in ulcers of the lungs, drank like tea.

*L. & E.* VINCA PERVINCA MAJOR  
ET MINOR, C. B. *Perrinkle.*

This is omitted by both Colleges, but is worthy of notice, the leaves being bitter and subastringent, and as

such are used by surgeons in the cure of sordid ichorous ulcers, and by physicians, both ancient and modern, in diarrhæas and dysenteries—being not only healing, but cleansing; and *Tragus* affirms, that if it be put into a vessel of rosy wine, and kept in a well-closed vessel fifteen days, it will restore it.

*L. & E.* VIRGA AUREA ANGUSTIFOLIA MINUS SERRATA,  
C. B. *Golden Rod.*

ANGUSTIFOLIA SERRATA, C. B. SOLIDAGO  
SARACENICA TRAGI.  
*Saracen's Confound.*

VULGARIS HUMILIOR,  
Raii Synops.

These three agree in sensible qualities, being of a somewhat balsamic smell, of a subastringent, bitterish taste, with some degree of acrimony. It is  
praised



praised in external and internal use in ulcers, and as a powerful diuretic; the powder being given to two drachms in white wine to discharge sand and mucus from the kidneys, but not to be taken in the nephritic paroxysms.

*L. & E.* ULMARIA BARBA CAPRI  
FLORIBUS COMPACTIS,  
*C. B. Meadow Sweet.*

Was formerly an ingredient in the *Aqua Alexiteria*, though now rejected, perhaps without sufficient reason; for the flowers are of a grateful smell, and a fine ratafia flavour, and give their smell to the water distilled from them; and for their grateful and wholesome smell are strewed in bed-chambers, and put into beer and wine to give them a grateful smell and taste, and are well recommended as diaphoretic.

L. & E. ULMUS nostras five  
ITALICA, & ULMUS  
VERNACULA COLUMEL-  
LÆ, C. B. *Common*  
*Elm.*

The bark is mucilaginous and af-  
tringent, and used in gargles, and more-  
over is lately strongly recommended  
in impetiginous disorders, and the *Le-  
pra Græcorum*; four ounces of the in-  
ner fresh bark boiled in two quarts of  
water to one quart, half a pint being  
drank twice in the day \*.

L. URTICA URENS MAXIMA, C. B.  
*Common Stinging Nettle.*

This is, as well as many others in  
the preceding Catalogue, one of those  
most common plants which ought not  
to be rejected; for, besides its use in  
what the Ancients called Urtication,

\* London Medical Observations. Lettsom's Medi-  
cal Memoirs of the General Dispensary.

the efficacy of the juice in hæmoptoës and other hæmorrhages is what all authors agree in; for which purpose it is depurated by standing, and drank from two ounces to four.

*L. ZINCUM, Tutenag, or Selter.*

May deserve a place here for the sake of its flowers, lately introduced into practice as an antispasmodic, and given from one to five grains three times in the day. The *Edinburgh* College have given the process.

## C H A P. II.

*Observations on some of the Preparations and Compositions in both Dispensatories.*

THE following hints, derived partly from my own experiments, and partly from those of a sagacious apothecary, *Henry Barton*, and who was an honour to his profession, I shall deliver, for the most part, in no other order, than as the subjects of them occur in the course of the medicines described in the *London Dispensatory*; where I find that which is called *Rob* and the article of Extracts to be among the first; and consequently any hints concerning these ought to precede any other. However, inasmuch as the two preparations mentioned are only the *residua* left upon the exhalation

tion



tion of the volatile parts ; I shall, in this instance, take the liberty of deviating from this order, by beginning with *Distilled Waters*, which were purposely drawn by no greater a degree of heat than that of the *cold still*.

Now, in the course of these experiments, two things occurred to my observation concerning Distilled Waters, which I apprehend it may not be useless to premise.

I. Whatever may be said of Simple Bitters, that they do not rise in distillation ; I find that the Aromatic Bitters do in some degree send over not only their aromatic and pungent particles, but also those in which the bitterness resides. For it is a common observation among Apothecaries, that in distilling

the *Aqua Alexiteria Simplex*, the Worm-wood frequently emits such a quantity of essential oil, as to be offensive by its bitterness; and moreover, I found that the Roman Worm-wood, Tansey, Feverfew, and *Marum Syriacum*, each gave a warm and bitter water; also, each of the following herbs gave a bitter water, though in a less degree than the foregoing, viz. Angelica, Lavender, Sage, Marjoram, Lavender-cotton, Germander, Chamomile, Lemon-peel, and Orange-peel.

From hence it follows, that such Waters are not entirely to be rejected, but may in prescription serve as vehicles in the use of other Bitters.

II. It is allowed that the principal of our Distilled Waters are furnished by Aromatics, whose active particles are capable of being preserved by this means; and herein I found them to differ greatly from the plants called Acrid Antiscorbutics, at least from the following, viz. *Cochlearia*, *Raphanus rusticus*, *Porrum*, *Nasturtium*, *Erysimum*, *Thlaspi siliquis latis*, *Cardamine*, *Allium ursinum*, *Eruca marina*, and *Persicaria acris*; the acrimony of most of which is of so volatile a nature, as to be either entirely lost in the operation, or not to keep long; so that only the *Cochlearia* and *Raphanus* gave over an acrid water: but even in these the acrimony is not lasting, nor is preserved but by spirits, as in the *Aqua Raphani Composita*, these plants having very little essential oil.

Thus



Thus it appears, that the acrimony of the plants last enumerated, is of a much more volatile kind than that of the Aromatic.

I have, however, found among our *Ranunculi*, some whose acrimony is at least of an equally fixed nature, and capable of being preserved, as that of the Aromatics; for our *Ranunculus bulbosus* and the *Ranunculus erectus acris* gave over, in my usual process by the cold still, a water of a burning acrimony, which it retained entire for twelve months; which shews a specific difference between the acrimony of these *Ranunculi* and the above Antiscorbutics.

I have met but with one instance of the medical use of Waters distilled from the *Ranunculus bulbosus*, and  
that



that is in *Ray's Historia Plantarum*,  
 viz. “ *Aquam distillatam hujus radice,*  
 “ *vel infusionem in spiritu vinificatam*  
 “ *contra pestem ab herbilegis Noricis*  
 “ *extolli.*”

But see the observation on *Ranunculus* above.

I proceed next to enumerate such Waters as I obtained mostly by the cold still, especially of Simples easily procurable, and which, retaining the native smell and taste of their respective Simples, are worth preserving, though not mentioned in either of the Colleges, viz.

#### APII PALUTRIS FOLIA.

The leaves of Smallage gave a very strong water, retaining the smell and  
 taste

taste of the herb, at the end of four years and a half after being drawn.

CALAMINTHA VULG. VEL OFFIC.

GERMANIÆ, C. B. *Common Calamint.*

Abounds in essential oil; and its water is stronger than that of Peniroyal, and of a taste between that of Peniroyal and Peppermint.

GALLII LUTEI FOLIA ET FLORES,

*Ladies Bedstraw.*

Yields a volatile acid in distillation, wherein this plant wholly differs from Sorrel and other Vegetable Acids, which acidity it retained a year after it was drawn; and this peculiarity seems to entitle it to further regard in practice.

HIPPOSELINI FOLIA, *Alexanders.*

Yields a strong aromatic water, and which retained its strength at the end of two years after it was drawn.

## LIMONUM CORTEX.

The *London* College mention the Orange-peel, but omit intirely that of the Lemon; the distilled water of which, for both its frequency and most grateful aromatic smell and flavour, certainly deserves a place here, as a fit ingredient in juleps. That which I drew by the cold still retained its strength above three years. It abounds with essential oil.

## MARUM SYRIACUM.

The distilled water retained the aromatic and pungent smell of the herb, when kept three years.

## NEPETA

NEPETA, *Catmint.*

Gives a water saturated with essential oil, and perhaps superior to Peniroyal.

## SERPYLLUM.

Is a most grateful aromatic, and abounds with us, and yields an agreeable distilled water.

## TANACETUM.

Gives a strong water, and worth keeping.

Lastly, we are of late supplied with an excellent substitute for Cinnamon water, viz,

CASSIÆ LIGNEÆ JERMINA, *Cassia buds.*

The distilled water of these has the taste of Cinnamon Water, and is richer in the essential oil, and at the same time much cheaper.

## ULMARIA.



## ULMARIA.

Yields a water of an agreeable smell and flavour ; and as its volatile parts seem to be free from the noxious qualities supposed in the *Aqua Cerasorum nigrorum*, perhaps it might make a useful substitute.

*See Ulmaria in the preceding Chapter.*

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TO DISTILLED WATERS, by reason of their affinity, may be subjoined,

ESSENTIAL OILS, particularly that of CLOVES, ORIGANUM, and CUMMIN, omitted in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, but justly retained in the *London* ; and LEMON PEEL, worthy to be adopted by both, as it was in the *Edinburgh Dispensatory*, 1756.

Of

*Of* EXTRACTS *and* INSPISSATED  
JUICES.

I PROCEED next to consider the more fixed parts of vegetables, whether they be the residua left upon decoction or distillation, called Extracts, or the inspissated juices of Fruits, commonly called *Robs*.

On the former of those articles, both Dispensatories have been pretty copious, but in the latter extremely penurious, so as to have given only one, viz. that of Elder-berries, tho', indeed, the *Edinburgh* of 1756 gave us also the jellies of Currants, Berberries, and Quinces; but these being mixed with sugar, are not simple *Robs*; the usefulness of which, prepared without sugar, I intend to shew: but, previous to this, it will be of use to consider the article of Extracts.

How

Now, I found in no small number and variety of Vegetables which I tried, that when the decoctions of them were protracted until they attained a consistence a little thinner than that of common Extract, they all acquired some degree of acidity, which acidity became much more evident in the Extract, so as to be manifest to the taste.

This was the case of the Bitters, particularly *Worm-wood*, *Chamomile*, *Germander*, *Centaury*, *Hops*, *Gentian*, and the *Peruvian Bark*. It was also the case with the *Aromatics*, particularly *Angelica*, *Lavender*, and *Lovage*; the Extracts of which manifested an acidity to the taste, as likewise by their ebullition, with some of the solid *Alcalis* added to them; as did also the Extracts drawn from those called the

L

*Volatile*

*Volatile Antiscorbutics*, particularly *Scurvy-grass*, *Water-creffes*, *Hedge-Mustard*, *Leeks*, *Radishes*, and *Cardamine*; as likewise did the famed Extract of the *Cicuta*.

Moreover, the same appearances were also exhibited, even by the *Sweets* as well as the *Bitters*; particularly the Extract from the leaves of the *Bellis major* acquires an acidity; also the Extract of *Liquorice* excited an ebullition with the solid *Alcalis*. *Treacle* also is another instance, for it also excited a froth with *Sal C. C.*

These experiments seem to tend to lessen our esteem of Extracts in general; so that wherever the substance, or infusion, or decoction, or juice of a plant can be got, we are at least much surer of getting its intire virtues than  
in



in the Extract, forasmuch as, in the progress of this operation, the native qualities of the plant are depraved by the supervening acidity induced; and as it is an established maxim, particularly as to Bitters, that these and Acids counteract each other, the first are so far enervated by the combined Acid.

I do not take upon me to endeavour entirely to discard the use of Extracts, which on many occasions are more commodious and better adapted to weak stomachs, by reason of the smallness of their dose; and therefore shall now proceed to the consideration of some few Extracts in use, and to the recommendation of a few others not found in either of the Dispensatories.

The Extract of Centaury is justly retained in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory of 1756, tho' rejected since, and may supersede that of *Gentian*; and the rather, because the *Gentian* has of late years been adulterated by a certain poisonous root.

The fruit of the *Cynosbatos* is ordered in the *London* Dispensatory in the form of a conserve, and that with a large proportion of Sugar; but I have kept an Extract from it prepared without Sugar three years, and it was not musty, but retained the grateful sweet-acid taste.

The Extract of *Cicuta* also deserves a place among Extracts of real use; but I beg leave to offer a new preparation of it, of which I have experienced

enced the ſame effects as an Anodyne, and which indeed answers to that of the Ancients, and is probably preferable to that prepared by the fire, as being leſs deprived of the volatile parts, viz. From a pint of the juice decanted from the ſediment, and ſtrained, and then expoſed to the heat of the ſun three days, I obtained an ounce and a half of Extract.

N. B. The Ancients alſo made an Extract from the juice of Henbane by the ſun, which they preſerved for uſe as an Anodyne.

The Extract of the *Hedera terreſtris*, tho' not mentioned by either College, may well deſerve to be adopted: for *Cartheuſer* obſerves the moſt active parts of this plant to lie in a fixed

L 3

gummy

gummy substance, and that the watery Extract is much stronger than the spirituous; which was confirmed in my Experiments, there being a remarkable heat in the former; and so it may be worth preparing, the frequency and usefulness of the plant recommending it, considered.

But besides these, there are other Simples which are more proper subjects for Extracts and Inspissated Juices than most of those abovementioned, viz. of the acid kind, tho' but little noticed for this purpose; so that I find but two in both Dispensatories ordered for simple *Robs* or Inspissated Juices, that is, Elder-berries in the *London*, and Sloes in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory of 1756.

*Oranges*



*Oranges* and *Lemons*, and the Mineral Acids have in a great measure supplanted a proper regard to our native vegetable acids; but as the *Oranges* and *Lemons* are not always to be got, the other may well supply their place; being equally, and some of them more saponaceous; and in several cases preferable to the rough Mineral Acids.

Thus an Extract of *Sorrel* or *Wood Sorrel* is not once mentioned in either Dispensatory, altho' these plants, when green (for they lose their acidity when dry, even as those called the Volatile Antiscorbutics do their acrimony), furnish a very large proportion of a gratefully acid Extract; so that from three ounces of the decoction of the *residuum* in the still, of the first I got nearly six drams of Extract, and from the second above seven drams of Ex-

L 4

tract,

tract, which is preferable to the plants themselves, or their juices in their crude state; so far, that it is much stronger, being the genuine acid of the plant concentrated or separated from the aqueous particles.

Besides these, most of our Horary Fruits will admit of the like preparation; so that we may be furnished with whatsoever is of real use in them, either in the way of diet or medicine (the flavour perhaps of some of them excepted), in the midst of winter; and these are more worthy of attention, as being of a more mild and saponaceous quality than either Sorrel, Lemons, or Oranges.

Indeed the *Edinburgh Dispensatory* of 1756 gives the preparation of some of these under the appellation of *Gelatina*,

*latina*, particularly that of *Currants*, *Berberries*, and *Quinces*, but always with a large proportion of Sugar; which weakens the acid, and makes the mixture more apt to ferment. I shall therefore give the quantities of Extract which I obtained from three ounces of the decoctions of the *residua* in the still, left after distillation, of the following articles without any Sugar, and by which their proportions to one another may in some measure appear.

1. From Red Currants, of a very acid and sweet Extract, 3 drachms, 23 grains.

2. White Currants, of a sweet and acid Extract, 7 drachms.

3. Black

3. Black Currants, acid and sweetish, but less grateful than the two preceding, 7 drachms, 1 scruple.

4. Blackberries, very acid, 7 drachms, 28 grains.

5. Strawberries, very sweet and acid, but the flavour lost, 4 drachms, 1 scruple.

6. Ripe Pears, as sweet as honey, with scarce any acidity, 7 drachms, 26 grains.

7. Raspberries, acid and gratefully sweet, and retaining the flavour, 6 drachms, 2 scruples, 14 grains.

8. Ripe Gooseberries, very acid and sweet, 1 ounce, 6 grains.

9. Red



9. Red Cherries, gratefully sweet and acid, 1 ounce, 2 scruples and a half.

10. Ripe Plums, acid and sweet, 1 ounce, 27 grains.

11. Blackberries, sweet, acid and rough, 1 ounce, 1 drachm, 4 grains.

12. Ripe Codlings, very sweet and subacid, 1 ounce, 2 scruples, 6 grains. Moreover, the juices expressed from each of these Articles were exhaled to the consistence of an Extract by the heat of the steam of hot water, and being kept in galley-pots, covered with a bladder, retained their genuine taste at the end of a year and a half, no Sugar being added.

To

To these add, the juice of Mulberries, prepared in the same manner, by the authority of *Daniel Ludovicus*.

The juice also of the *Vaccinia nigra*, *Black Whorts*, or *Whortle-berries*, *Hibernicè Fragnans*, ripe, of which half a pint gave of Extract, of a grateful sweet-acid taste, 5 drachms, 17 grains; and the juice of *Peaches*, of which half a pint gave of Extract, of the native grateful, sweet-acid taste, 4 drachms, 2 scruples,

Apples also may be preserved for use in winter and other seasons, by being put whole in a baker's oven after the bread is taken out, and this repeated until the Apples be shrivelled and brown, like *Pruens* dried; and thus may be kept a whole year, being  
only

only thus deprived of their phlegm, the grateful sweet-acid taste remaining.

These intimations may be of singular service in practice on many occasions; and the rather, as the use of Fruits in fevers is of late happily revived.

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### *Of OILS and SALTS.*

I PROCEED next, according to the order of the preparations described in the *London Dispensatory*, to those of Oils by expression; and here occurs, first:

The *Oil of Mustard* by expression, an Oil hitherto commonly supposed to be not at all possessed of any acrimony,

mony, but to be as mild as Oil of sweet Almonds; the contrary of which hath been shewn by the late Experiments.

The *Oleum Sinapinum* of the Ancients, indeed, was made by steeping the seed finely pounded in warm water, to which Oil was afterwards added; and then what was pressed out from this mixture was called Oil of Mustard; nor did the Moderns know any other by this name than such a mild one as above-mentioned, as appears by the Dispensatories of both Colleges, until by the sagacity of *James Ivory*, Merchant, in *Dublin*, it was discovered, that by means of superior pressure an Oil might be obtained, both from the White and Common Mustard, possessed of the acrimony of the seed, even by the superior



rior pressure of a wedge on the seeds inclosed in canvas bags, and placed between two iron plates in a mill; and thus by the force of this strong pressure blending the essential Oil with the common, a strong sharp Oil is obtained, which retained its acrimony at the end of two years after it was drawn, and undoubtedly will prove useful to many good purposes both externally and internally.

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NEXT to Oils, in the *London Dispensatory*, succeed *Salts* and *Salina*; and among the rest, the *Sal catharticus Glauberi*. And here the *Sal de Seignette*, or *Sal Rupellense*, the *Rockelle Salt*, deserves consideration as a commodious Purge, being a composition of the Marine Alkali with Cream of Tartar, somewhat like the *Tartarum solubile*,  
but

but preferable to it, in being not liable to grow moist as that, and being void of the nauseous bitter taste of the Glauber's Salt.

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*Of several Preparations of CATHARTICS, in both Dispensatories.*

THE *Infusum Senæ Commune* and *Limoniatum* in the London Dispensatory have Cream of Tartar and Juice of Lemons in their composition ; that of *Edinburgh* is prepared with Tamarinds and Cream of Tartar. Now, whatever may be the effect of these Acids in taking away the nauseousness of the Sena, as Acids they hinder the extraction of its tincture, and consequently its purgative operation, which resides partly in a mucilaginous and partly in a matter approaching to oil

or

or refin ; for Lemon-juice destroys the tincture of Sena in water, and Cream of Tartar hinders it from giving forth its tincture to water ; and other Acids, as Vinegar, Verjuice, and Cyder, have the like effect, even in proportion to their acidity ; and French Claret scarce extracted any tincture at all from it : On the contrary, Salt of Tartar immediately expedites and advances the tincture of Sena ; but Sack and Port Wine, Mead, Beer, and Ale (in all which the acid is greatly enveloped) extracted deeper tinctures from it than either Water or Rhenish Wine, or French White Wine, the more oily fermented liquors being better adapted to the extraction of the oily or refinous matter than either water, or water combined with an Acid ; and consequently the infusions of Sena in both Dispensatories are

M not

not calculated for the improvement on the efficacy of the Medicine, but rather to gratify the palate.

But after all, perhaps the best method of giving Sena is to infuse it in a larger proportion of liquor than in either of the Dispensatories, as in the *Ptisana Cathartica* in *Bate*; where not above a scruple is ordered to half a pint of Water, concerning which he says, “*quinquies aut sexies movere raro fallit.*”

The several preparations of Aloes are not less worthy to be considered, concerning which the following observations were mostly communicated by the sagacious Apothecary above-named, and one of the first who pointed out the effects of Gums and Mucilages



cilages in dissolving resinous substances.

The *Tinctura sacra* in the *London Dispensatory* wants precision in regard to the Wine, or ordering White Wine indefinitely instead of Spanish Wine; for French White Wine is the very worst menstruum for Aloes, as appears in the following Table :

I. Four drachms of succotrine Aloes digested 3 days in river water,	left undissolved	A drachm and a half of tenacious matter.
II. Four drachms of the same in French white wine,		1 drachm, two scruples of tenacious matter.
III. Four drachms of the same in proof spirit, diluted in the proportion of half a pint of water to a pint of spirit,		Half a drachm which was not tenacious.
IV. Four drachms of the same in neat proof spirit,		1 scruple tasting somewhat of Aloes.
V. Four drachms of the same in rectified spirit,		1 scruple, 5 gr. of tasteless fœces, and no tenacity.

Here we see, that of these several menstrua the worst is French White Wine, dissolving the least proportion of the Aloes; but rectified Spirit is the most complete menstruum, which entirely destroys the tenacity of the Aloes, and deprives it of its taste. The same person apprehending that the ill effects sometimes attending Aloes, such as the Gripes and Piles, may be owing to its tenacity, made divers experiments in order to correct this quality, viz. with Salt of Tartar, Castile Soap, Loaf Sugar, Honey, Sheep's Gall, and the Yolk of an Egg, and found that Salt of Tartar was the most effectual in taking away this cohesive quality, and recommends the following Pills or Paste. Aloes 1 ounce, Sal Tartari 1 drachm, ob. Anisi gtt. xxx *Misce.* He has also found another substance effectual for the same purpose, as in the

the following experiment : To 1 drachm of Gum Arabic were put two tea-spoonfuls of Water in order to make a thick mucilage ; to which was added, 1 drachm of Aloes powdered : this mixture was rubbed in a mortar with 2 ounces of river water, and the Aloes was dissolved, and entirely lost its tenacity.

The Tinctures of Rhubarb may also admit of some improvements, viz.

The vinous Tincture in the *London Dispensatory* is ordered to be made with White Wine indefinitely, instead of Spanish Wine ; and that this is preferable to Rhenish and other liquors partaking of an acid, appears from hence, that these draw much weaker tinctures from Rhubarb than do

Sack and Mead, in which the acid is inveloped. And if the Tincture be made with proof spirits, as it is in the Dispensatory of *Edinburgh* 1774, that from Malt, which in all experiments shews a less degree of acidity than Rum or Brandy, draws a deeper tincture.

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*Of the Uses of LIME WATER, as a*  
MENSTRUUM.

THAT Lime Water is a more powerful Menstruum than Spirit of Wine, dissolving resins, mucous substances, and oils both vegetable and animal, some of which are not affected by Spirits of Wine, is allowed; but upon what principle this is effected was not discovered till of late, that is, by the Lime attracting the fixed air; the *vinculum cohesionis* in those substances,  
of



of which I now proceed to enumerate several instances, being of such preparations, as may well deserve a place in any future *Pharmacopœia*, from Dr. *Macbride's* \* Experiments.

I. To the *Tinctura Guaiacina Volatilis* of the *London Dispensatory* may be substituted the following preparation: Let the Resin of Guaiacum be rubbed with equal parts of Quicklime, and afterwards mixed with a proper quantity of Lime-water, which will give a complete solution of it.

II. In the *Aqua Calcis magis composita* and *minus composita* of the *London Dispensatory*, it is to be observed, that the Guaiacum and Sassafras contain much fixed air; which in this

\* Macbride's Experimental Essays.

preparation is absorbed by the Lime Water; and by this means the Lime returns to the state of an inert calcareous earth; and therefore, if there be any dependance on the virtues of Quick Lime, as indeed there generally is, this should be added in the preparation.

III. The *Julepum é Camphora* of the London Dispensatory may be thus improved: R. *Camphora*, ʒi. *Sacchari albiss.* ʒi. *Conterantur Saccharum et Camphora, dein affunde gradatim Aquæ Calcis lb. Stent duas horas, dein filtra.*—Thus will be produced, not indeed an entire solution, but a much stronger than the common *Julepum Camphoratum*.

IV. And the *Julepum é Moscho*, thus: R. *Moschi* ʒi. *Sacch. albiss* ʒi.  
Aq.

*Aq. Calcis* ℥vi. *Conterantur Moschus et Saccharum, dein affunde Aq. Calcis. Stent duas horas, dein filtra.*

V. The *Tinctura Corticis Peruviani* may also by the like experiment be considerably improved, especially when the *Cortex* is prescribed with a view to its astringent virtue, as in scrophulous and relaxed habits, in order to check or dry up ulcers, gleet, or uterine discharges; *R Cort. Peruv. ℥ii. Calcis vivæ, ℥i. Conterantur; affunde gradatim aq. Calcis ℥xxx. Stent xii horas, dein filtra. Dos. Coch. vi. ter, in die.*

VI. The *Tinctura Castorei* may be thus improved: *R Castorei ℥ii. Calcis viv. ℥i. Conterantur Castoreum et Calx viva, affunde Aq. Calcis ℥vi. F. Tinctura fortis et elegans, aut addi*



*addi potest ad gratiam aq. Nucis moschatae, deinde dosi Cochl. ii. vel iii. exhibenda.*

N. B. These Tinctures made with Lime Water have this singular advantage, That the dissolved bodies are not precipitated on the admixture of watery liquids, as those made with Spirits of Wine.

Under the Article of *Mixtures* in the *London Dispensatory* we meet with the *Lac Ammoniacy*, to which might profitably be subjoined two other preparations, viz. from Myrrh, and from Olibanum, both Gum-Resins, as well as that called *Gum Ammoniac*; and consequently a *Lac Myrrhæ* may be prepared, possessing the whole substance, and consequently virtues of Myrrh in a liquid form; for if Myrrh

be



be beaten in a mortar with water, it makes an emulsion containing both the gum and resin of Myrrh, and as such is preferable to that prepared with spirit.

In like manner may a *Lac Olibani* be prepared, this being also a Gum-Resin, which by triture in water will make an emulsion, by which it is distinguished from the *Thus fœmininum* or Common Frankincense; this last being a true Resin of the Pine, dissolving entirely in rectified Spirits. To these may be added an emulsion from *Gamboge*, which also belongs to the class of Gum-Resins, and which I have often given in this form in dropfical cases, being rubbed with distilled water and sugar.

Next in order succeeds in the *London* Dispensatory the article of Syrups: and 1. That of the *Syrupus ex Althæa*. Here the quantity of the root is too large in both Dispensatories, and the boiling is too long protracted; for whereas both the *London* and *Edinburgh* order it to be boiled to the consumption of half the water, my experienced Operator abovenamed finds that one ounce of very thinly sliced fresh-dug root to a quart and half a pint of water, viz. a far less quantity of the root than in either of the Dispensatories, and giving it what he calls one boil and no more, and letting it stand all night, and adding next morning as much sugar as will give it the consistence of a Syrup, will exceed that made by the usual long boiling in tenacity (the quality for which this

Medi-

Medicine is valued), Mucilages losing much of their tenacity by long boiling. To this add, the great waste of the root by the far too large proportion of it to the water. He acknowledges indeed, that the syrup made in his method is more apt to grow mouldy; however, as it is preferable as a medicine for its superior mucilaginous quality, this may be prevented by making less at a time.

II. In the *Syrupus Balsamicus* the *London* Dispensatory orders a long decoction of the Balsam in water, which extracts little of the Balsam, but chiefly the acid Salt, the proper menstruum for the Balsam being rectified Spirit; and therefore the Tincture prepared therewith is added in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory to common syrup, and preserves



preserves the virtue of the Balsam entire.

The *Unguentum ex Althæa* in the *London Dispensatory* is another instance of error in composition; for whereas the *Oleum é Mucilaginibus* derives its name from the Mucilages, one of its ingredients, there is no dependance on it as a mucilaginous medicine, nor consequently on either of these compositions; recent observations having shewn it to be a palpable error to attempt to dissolve Mucilages in expressed Oils by the method here laid down, where not only the roots and seeds are ordered to be boiled half an hour, but to be boiled again when the oil is added, even to the consumption of the watery moisture; for when all the water is evaporated, the Mucilage forms itself into grumous,  
gummy



gummy particles, which afterwards are thrown away with the fœces.

I shall conclude these remarks by considering how far the celebrated *Elixir Vitrioli* (on which great stress is laid as a bracer, from a supposed union of the Aromatic Oils to the Vitriolic Acid) may be deemed a congruous mixture, which the following Experiments of the above-named Author will help to determine :

I. To one part of Oil of Vitriol were added four parts of Water, instead of pure Oil of Vitriol, in both Dispensatories.

This was poured on the *Tinctura Aromatica* made with strong Spirit of Wine, upon which there ensued a great coagulation and precipitation.

II. *Spiritus*

II. *Spiritus Vitrioli dulcis* was poured on the *Tinctura aromatica* made with proof Spirit, as in the *Elixir Vitrioli dulce*; and there ensued a coagulum and precipitation in this also, tho' much less than in the preceding Experiment, so that there was so much of the aromatic Oil suspended as to be sensible to the palate.

From these Experiments it appears, that the Union of the aromatic Oils to Spirit of Wine, is hindered by the Acid of Vitriol in proportion to the strength of this Acid having the stronger attraction to the Phlogiston; and this is further confirmed by an appearance often observed in the *Elixir Vitrioli Acidum*, prepared with Oil of Vitriol, viz. which, after it has been some time made, lets fall a sediment which is a combination of the Vitriolic  
Acid

acid and aromatic Oil, from the superior attraction of the Vitriolic Acid to the aromatic Oil, than that of Spirit of Wine to the aromatic Oil.

N. B. This composition seems to resemble, and is illustrated by, what occurs in the bowels of the Earth in the generation of Amber, Bitumen, and Sulphur, being combinations of the Vitriolic Acid and Mineral Oil.

Upon the whole, this separation of the aromatic Oil from the Spirit, by means of the Acid, appears so far to render the *Elixir Vitrioli Acidum* an incongruous mixture, as to make it, at least by time, little more than Oil of Vitriol sweetened by Spirit of Wine; and even That prepared with dulcified Spirit, is also liable to some degree of the same inconvenience, viz. a subse-

N

quent

quent precipitation of the aromatic Oil.

Of this the College of *Edinburgh* in their Dispensatory seem to have been sensible, and therefore order their *Elixir Vitrioli Acidum* to be prepared with a less proportion of the acid than in the *Elixir Vitrioli Acidum* of the *London* Dispensatory.

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THE following REMARKS pointing out some further Pharmaceutical errors, from another judicious and experienced Operator, having since been communicated, I shall here add them, as worthy of attention in the compiling any future Pharmacopoeia.



## In the MUCILAGO GUM. TRAGACANTHÆ,

The *Edinburgh* College give an elaborate process, viz. first, to bruise the Gum, and then to macerate it in hot water 24 hours ; which is a needless trouble : for, besides that this Gum is very tough and difficult to powder, it will dissolve completely in 5 or 6 hours in cold water.

## The TINCTURA CASTOREI

Is ordered to be made with rectified Spirit ; but Proof Spirit is a better Menstruum, as the College of *London* have ordered ; the Castor yielding not only to spirituous, but partly to watery Menstrua, and affording a strong and elegant tincture to Lime Water, as is above observed.

## OLEUM MENTHÆ ESSENTIALE,

In the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory is ordered to be made with the dry herb, contrary to the general and better custom of preparing it from the green herb when in perfection and flower, and without any maceration; altho' this last be ordered in the *London* as well as *Edinburgh* Dispensatory. The Process for making the *Spiritus volatilis aromaticus*, both in the *London* and *Edinburgh* Dispensatory, is very exceptionable; for, besides that the Oils are frequently adulterated, they will not dissolve perfectly in any Spirit in which there is the least portion of Phlegm; of which the *Sp. Salis Ammoniaci vinosus*, in the *Edinburgh* Dispensatory; and the *Sp. Salis Ammoniaci dulcis*, in the *London*; contains a large quantity: and accordingly, when the Oils are first added to the Spirit,

even.

even supposing them pure, they turn milky, and after some time red; and therefore the old practice of making this Spirit is the best, viz. to distil it with a few select aromatic herbs instead of their Oils, which are too often adulterated.

In the *Syrupus de Spina cervina*, the *Edinburgh* College in 1774 have omitted the Aromatics as Correctors, tho' the College of 1735 add Oil of Cloves to it; and that of *London*, Cinnamon, Ginger, and Nutmegs.

In the *Electuarium lenitivum*, the *Edinburgh* College have omitted the most useful ingredients, the Cassia and Tamarinds; retaining only the Sena and the pulp of Pruens, which makes a disagreeable medicine, and apt to ferment.

The *Pilulæ Aloeticæ* are far from being an improvement of the *Pilulæ Aloeticæ* in the Dispensatory 1756. There, indeed, Soap is mixed with the Aloes; but here, a large quantity of the Extract of Gentian is added to it, which increases the bulk of the medicine without any advantage; and the *Sal. Polychrest*, as saline substances in general, makes an incongruous mixture with Pills.

To this add, the present College of 1774 expunging the following Articles retained in their Dispensatory of 1756, tho' generally received, and for the most part very useful, viz.

Aqna Calcis simplex & composita,  
 Balsamum Locatelli,  
 Confectio Alkermes,  
 Conserva Cynosbati & Lujulæ,  
 Decoctum album,  
 Decoctum pectorale,

Elaterium,



Elaterium,  
 Extractum Centaurij minoris,  
 Lohoch ex Amylo,  
 Mel Rosarum,  
 Minium,  
 Oleum Caryophyllor.  
 Ol. Cort. Limonum,  
 Ol. Origani,  
 Oxymel scilliticum,  
 Oxymel simplex,  
 Sal Fabarum stipitum,  
 Sal Genistæ,  
 Unguentum sen Linimentum Arcæi,  
 Unguentum citrinum,  
 Flores Sulphuris,  
 Lac Sulphuris.

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## RECAPITULATION.

AND now, to recapitulate what new hath been advanced.

*New* DISTILLED WATERS *from the following Vegetables proposed, are those of*

Apium palustre,  
 Calamintha montana,  
 Cassiæ lignæ germina,

N 4

Gallium

Gallium luteum,  
 Hippofelinum,  
 Limonum Cortex,  
 Marum Syriacum,  
 Nepeta,  
 Serpyllum,  
 Tanacetum.

NEW EXTRACTS, *and useful, are  
 prepared from the following Ar-  
 ticles.*

Tanacetum,  
 Centaurium minus,  
 Cynosbati fr.  
 Hedera terr.  
 Acetosa,  
 Lujula.]

*The following Inspissated JUICES called ROBS, and prepared without Sugar, will be of great use in all Seasons, viz. those of,*

Currants, black, red,	Red Cherries,
and white,	Ripe Plums,
Berberries,	Blackberries,
Strawberries,	Mulberries,
Ripe Pears.	Whortleberries,
Raspberries,	Peaches.
Ripe Gooseberries,	

*Newly proposed useful Preparations.*

Oleum Sinapinum per expressionem validiorem.

Sal Rupellense, Sel de Seignette.

*Extemporaneous TINCTURES.*

Tinctura Guaiacina,  
Julepum e Camphora,  
Julepum e Moscho,

Tinctura

Tinctura Cort. Peruviani,

—— Castorei,

—— Myrrhæ,

Lac Myrrhæ,

—— Olibani,

—— Gambogiæ.

There is yet another useful improvement which does honour to the Moderns, and ought not to be suppressed in silence, but is worthy of a place among the *Preparationes Simpliciores*, or may be annexed to them, viz. the rendering Balsams, Resins, and unctuous substances miscible with water by means of Mucilages : thus the Balsam of Copivi, Peru, Tolu, Camphor, Wax, Gum Guaiac, and Sperma Ceti, by triturating with Gum Arabic, or its Mucilage, become dissoluble in water ; a method in some cases preferable to the former practice of effecting this by the Yolk of an Egg or Spirit of Wine.



## C H A P. III.

*Classes of Officinal SIMPLES and PLANTS  
whether indigenous or cultivated, ac-  
cording to their sensible Qualities and  
Operations, which may prove a use-  
ful Fund for supplying Succedanea.*

## S E C T I O N I.

## C L A S S I.

*According to the sensible Qualities.*

## AROMATIC.

**A**NGELICA,  
Ageratum,  
Betonica,  
Carum,  
Cayrophyllatæ rad.  
Dauci sylv. fem.  
Fæniculum,  
Hippofelini fem.  
Horminum,  
Hyssopus,

## FRAGRANT.

Chærophyllum,  
Geranium Moschatum,  
Jasmini flores,  
Leucoij lutei flores,  
Lilii albi flores,  
Lil. convall. flores,  
Paralyseos flores  
Rosa,  
Spinæ albæ flores  
Tiliæ flores,  
Imperatoria,

# 188. MATERIA MEDICA.

## AROMATIC.

Imperatoria,  
Lavendula,  
Lauri folia,  
Levisticum,  
Majorana,  
Marum Syriacum,  
——— Vulg.  
Origanum,  
Rosmarinus,  
Salvia,  
Satureja,  
Serpyllum,  
Sphondylii sem.  
Tanacetum,  
Thymus verus.

## FRAGRANT.

Thymus citratus,  
Violæ flos,  
Ulmariæ flos.

## FETID, OR, OF A STRONG SMELL.

Alliaria,	Cardiaca,
Allium,	Ebulus,
Anonis,	Galeopsis,
Artemisia,	Geranium Robertianum,
Calamintha,	Pulegii Hedera terr.
odore,	Linaria,
Cepa	Lupulus,
Cicuta	Matricaria,
Cotula foetida,	Marrubium nigrum,
Cynoglossum,	Menthastrum,
	Nepeta,

Nepeta,	Sabina,
Peucedanum,	Sambuci folia,
Porrum,	Scrophularia,
Pulegium,	Stramonium,
Ruta,	Valeriana.

ACRID.

Allium,  
Arum,  
Cardamine,  
Cepa,  
Chelidonium majus,  
Cochlearia,  
Cotula foetida,  
Dracontium,  
Eruca,  
Erysimum,  
Lilii convall. flores,  
Leucoium luteum,  
Laureola,

BITTER.

Abfinthium,  
Carduus benedictus,  
Centaurium minus,  
Cichoreum sylv.  
Dens leonis rad.  
Dipsacus,

ACRID.

Lepidium,  
Mezereon,  
Nasturtium aquat.  
—— hort.  
Pimpinella saxifraga,  
Perficaria acris,  
Porrum,  
Ptarmica,  
Raphanus rusticanus,  
Ranunculus,  
Sinapi,  
Sedum minus acre,  
Tithymalus.

BITTER.

Euphrasia,  
Fumaria,  
Genista,  
Gentianella,  
Glaustum,  
Hieracii rad.  
Leucojum

# 190 MATERIA MEDICA.

Leucojum luteum,	Saponaria,
Lupinus,	Succisa,
Lupullus,	Trifolium palustre.
Perficæ mali fol. et fl.	

## BITTER-ASTRINGENT.

Ligustrum,	Veronica mas,
Verbena,	Vinca pervinca.

## BITTER-AROMATIC.

Ageratum,	Lauri baccæ,
Chamæmelum,	Marrubium album,
Chamædrys,	Tanacetum.
Eupatorium	Cannabinum,

## ACID.

## ACID.

Acetosa,	Cerasa,
Acetosella seu Lujula,	Corni fructus,
Acetosa arvensis lanceo-	Grossularia,
- lata,	Lyfimachiæ lutea fol.
Berberis	Vaccinia palustria.

## ACID & SWEET.

## ACID & SWEET.

Corni fr. maturus,	Perficæ mali fr.
Cydonia malus fr. ma-	Prunus vulg. fr.
turus,	Ribesia,
Cynosbati fr. putridus,	Rubi fr. maturus Idæi,
Cerasus nigra,	Sambuci baccæ,
Fragariæ fr.	Vaccinia nigra,
Grossulariæ fr. maturus,	Uvæ passæ majores,
Mori fr. maturus,	



## ACID-AUSTERE.

Cydonia malus fr. im-	Pini folia juniora,
maturus,	Pruni Sylv. fr.
Grossulariæ fr. immatu-	Rubi vulg. fr. immatu-
rus,	rus,
Malus sylv.	Vaccinia nigra fr. im-
Mespili fr. immaturus,	maturus.
Mori fr. immaturus,	

## ASTRINGENT.

Alchimilla,	Pentaphyllum,
Aquilegiæ sem.	Phyllitis, seu Lingua
Argentina,	cervina,
Bistortæ rad.	Pini cort.
Cupressus,	Pyrus sylv.
Cynosbati fr. immaturus	Quercus,
& spongia,	Rosa rubra,
Equisetum,	Rubi fol.
Filipendula,	Salix cort.
Geran. Robertianum,	Sorbi fr. immaturus,
Hypericum,	Tamarisci cort.
Lyfimachia,	Tormentillæ rad.
Nymphææ albæ rad.	Ulmi cort.

## SWEET.

Asparagi rad.	Bardanæ rad,
Avellanæ nuces,	Betæ rad.

## SWEET.

Bellis major,	Pastinacæ rad.
Bulbo-castani rad.	Petroselini rad.
Castanea,	Pini nuclei,
Dauci sylv. rad.	Pyra,
Eryngii rad.	Rapum,
Fagi glans,	Satyrion,
Ficus,	Sisari rad.
Glycyrrhiza,	Scorzonera recens,
Juglandis nuces,	Sorbi fr. maturus.
Mespili fr. putridus,	

## MUCILAGINOUS &amp; FARINACEOUS.

Alcea,	Fœnugræcum,
Alfine,	Fungus Sambucinus,
Althæa,	Gum Cerasor.
Avena,	—— Pruni,
Borrago,	Hordecum,
Branca urfina,	Hyacinthi rad.
Cannabis sem.	Lens,
Cicer,	Lilii albi fol. fl. & rad.
Consolida,	Lini sem.
Cucumeris sem.	Linaria,
Cucurbitæ sem.	Malva,
Cydonior sem.	Melonis sem.
Faba,	Milii sem.
Ficus,	Oryza,

Ovi albumen,	Sambuci fl.
—— vitellus,	Satyræ rad.
Papaveris albi sem.	Secale,
Pisum,	Spinæ albæ fr.
Plantaginis sem.	Triticum,
Portulaca,	Viscum Miffeltoe,
Psyllii sem.	Urticæ fol. & sem.

ABSORBENT OF ACIDS.

Bolus Blefenfis,	Lapis calaminaris,
Cancrorum chelæ & Margaritæ,	
oculi,	Oftreorum testæ,
Corallium rubrum,	Ovorum testæ,
Corallina,	Os fepiæ,
Cornu cervi calcinatum,	Zincum.
Lac Lunæ,	

## SECTION II.

## CLASS II.

*The Distribution of PLANTS according to their  
sensible Operations.*

## I. OF ECCOPROTICS.

ABINTHII succus,	Dens leonis,
——— larga dosi,	Dulcamaræ stipites,
Allium,	Ebuli turiones,
Beccabunga,	Ficus,
Bellis minor cum floribus	Filicis maris fol. tenera
Beta,	& radix,
Bonus Henricus,	Fumaria majore dosi,
Borrago,	Hieracii rad. majore
Brassica non diu cocta,	dosi,
Bryoniæ turiones;	Hordeum,
Calendula fol. & fl.	Juglandis nuces virides
Centaureum minus,	cum exteriori cortice
Cepa,	Lactuca,
Cerasa dulcia,	Lens,
Cichoreum sylv.	Lupuli turiones,
Cucurbitæ caro,	Mala dulcia,
	Mercurialis



Mercūrialis fæm.	Sambuci caules teneri,
Parietariæ succus,	folia juniora, gem-
Perficæ mali fol. & fr.	mæ & baccæ,
maturus,	Sapo,
Pisforum jusculum pri-	Saponaria majore dosi,
mum,	Secale,
Polypodii rad.	Sinapi,
Porrum,	Sorbi fr. maturus,
Pruna,	Valerianæ rad.
Pyra dulcia,	Urtica.

## II. MILD PURGES.

Alnus nigra baccifera,	Pruni sylv. fl.
Convolvulus major,	Rhaponticum,
Cysnobati flores,	Rosa Damascena,
Genistæ fol. & succus	Sambuci fl. recentes &
dosi minore,	folia,
Lapathi rad. majore dosi,	Spina cervina,
Oxylapathi rad.	Violæ fol. & fl.
Perficæ mali fl.	

## III. DRASTIC PURGES.

Bryoniæ rad.	Dracontii rad.
Cataputia minor,	Dulcamaræ fol. succus,
Convolvulus maritimus,	Ebulus,
feu Soldanella,	Genista majore dosi,
Digitalis,	Iridis omnis rad.
	Laureola,

# 196 MATERIA MEDICA.

Laureola fol. & fr.	Sambuci cort. interior,
Linum catharticum,	Spatulæ foetidæ rad.
Mezereon,	Tithymalus.

## EMETICS.

Afari fol. & rad.	Iridis palustris rad.
Digitalis,	Mezerei Cort.
Erigerum,	Narcissi rad.
Eruca,	Primulæ veris rad.
Genista,	Raphani hort. rad.
Hederæ arboreæ baccæ,	——— rustic. rad.
Iridis nostratis rad. fuc-	Sedum acre,
cus,	Sinapi.

## CAUSTICS and VESICATORIES.

Allium,	Mezereon,
Anemone,	Perficaria urens,
Ari. rad.	Pimpinellæ saxifragæ
Bryoniæ rad. succus re-	rad.
cens,	Ranunculus,
Cepa,	Raphani rustic. rad.
Chelidonii maj. succus	Sedum acre,
luteus,	Sinapi,
Dracontium,	Thymelæa seu Grana
Erucæ sem.	Cinidia, Gallicè Ga-
Iberidis rad.	rou,
Laureola,	Tithymalus.
Lepidium,	

To these deserve to be added,  
 SEDATIVES, ANODYNES, NARCOTICS,  
 (Being opposite in their effects to the  
 foregoing, viz. quieting and not pro-  
 moting Evacuations).

Canabis,	Nicotiana,
Cicuta,	Papaver,
Cynoglossum,	Paralytis,
Horminum,	Spiritus Vini,
Hyoscyamus,	

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*Of the Collection of some* ROOTS.

IT will not be useless, in the next place, especially as the late *Edinburgh* Dispensatory has been silent upon this head, to make a few observations on the proper time for collecting Roots, because a neglect of this matter may prove a means of depriving them of their credit in respect to the virtues attributed to them, merely.

for want of the taking them up at the time when they are in their greatest perfection. Thus, according to the observation of the above-mentioned sagacious Apothecary, the *Arum* root, an ingredient in the *Pulvis Ari compositus* (a medicine of great activity, if prepared from this root got in its most perfect state), if it be dug in spring (as, he says, it often is with us) it will soon lose its Acrimony and become effete; not from the great volatility of its parts, which from Experiment appears to be less than in the Antiscorbutics, as Horseradish and Scurvy-Grass, but from the imperfect state in which it is found at that season of the year; for the roots are then in a withering state, and at the same time new ones are forming, which new ones are not perfected until the latter part of summer;



mer: for when the stalks are withering, i. e. about the end of August or beginning of September, the new roots become large and turgid, and if taken up at this season, and carefully dried and preserved, will retain their acrimony till the return of the season, as the abovenamed person assured me.

In order to arrive at some degree of certainty in this matter, having learnt from *Græw* and *Ray* that the Root of *Arum*, and several of the Perennial plants, is formed by the yearly descent of the stalk, which is gradually transmuted into a Root; I dug up one of the Roots of *Arum* in March, which I found to consist of three different parts, viz. the first, which was next the Stalk, was white and succulent, being the rudiments of a root

not yet perfectly formed, and the production of the present year; the second was brown, and beginning to shrivel, being the production of the last year; the third was entirely shrivelled, and wasted to an inconsiderable bulk, and was ready to drop off, having been the production of the first year; whereas the production of the present year arrives at its due maturity at the latter end of summer.

There are two other Roots, which may also be in danger of losing part of the credit due to them, by means of the same neglect of the proper time of gathering them, viz. the *Water-Dock* and the *Valerian*.

As to the first, we not only have the authority of *Miller*, in his *Gardener's Dictionary* for taking up the  
Roots

Roots of the *Lapatha* in general after the leaves are decayed, but upon strict observations made here, it appears that the Autumn is the proper season for it: for upon a comparison made between those roots that had been taken up in Spring, with those that had been taken up in Autumn, the first were remarkable for being more watery, less strong and firm, and wasted more in the drying; and consequently the procuring them at the proper season must redound more to the profits of the Apothecary, as well as furnish him with the root intrinsically stronger and better. So the root of *Valerian* ought to be taken up in Autumn; That taken up in May, upon comparisons accurately made, being more watery, less strong, and less fetid, than that taken up in September and October: also, I caused this root to be taken up in  
July,



July, in August, and in September, and found that which had been taken up in July to consist of small fibres, that in August of larger, and that in September much larger.

So the root of one of the *Orchis*'s, from whence a liquor like Salep may be prepared, is best taken up for this purpose when the seed is formed, and the stalk ready to fall; for then the Bulb is arrived to its full maturity, and may be known from the old one, whose strength is spent by the preceding germination.

The Author last named also mentions as a well known practice, that the proper season for collecting most of the bulbous tuberous roots, and preserving them, whether for medical or culinary use, is either at the latter end  
of



of Summer or in Autumn, viz. when the Stalk and Leaves are decaying; as in Garlic, Onions, Potatoës, Carrots, Skirrets, Liquorice, Madder, and Tragopogon: so that the Gardener who should choose to take up his Potatoes for the use of the table early in the Summer, when the plant is in vigour, but the root in a crude and watery state; rather than wait till Autumn, when it acquires that farinaceous quality on which its excellence depends; would not be a worse œconomist than that Apothecary who should take up the Roots of *Arum*, and the others mentioned, in Spring, or the height of Summer, before they arrived to maturity.

## A P P E N D I X.

I SHALL here, for the entertainment of the Curious, whilst the doctrine of Fermentation in the *primæ viæ* is now generally received, give a List of divers Vegetables which so far elude the concoctive powers, as to retain some of their distinguishing qualities far beyond the *primæ viæ*.

Thus the Hippofelinum,	} are observed to give a violet smell to the Urine.
Iridis Florentinæ rad.	
Juniperi baccæ,	
Terebinthina è Chio,	
—— Argentoratenfis,	
—— Laricea,	

Mastich also is said to betray itself in the Urine, by the like Turpentine smell.

Brassica,

Brassica,	} largely used, give a fetor to the Urine.
Afa foetida,	
Asparagi radix & tu- riones,	
Raphanus,	

Oleum Anisi is smelt in the Urine of a sucking Infant, when the Nurse has taken it.

Caricæ taken largely give a fetor to the Sweat.

Opium taken largely gives a smell to the Urine and sweat.

Cepa gives its smell to the Milk of those who take or feed on it.

Allium gives its smell to the Milk, to the perspirable matter, and to the lymph of Ulcers and Issues.

Alliaria

Alliaria gives its smell to the breath and sweat.

Erysimum gives to the Milk of those who take it the smell of Garlic.

Porrum gives its smell to the Milk and Butter of the Animals who eat it.

Abfinthium renders the flesh of Animals who eat it very disagreeable.

Sulphur renders the perspirable matter fetid, and tinges the Silver in the pockets of those who take it, of a black colour.

And the following of the Fragrant kind :

Fraga



Fraga Strawberries,	} give their smell to the Urine.
Limonum Cortex,	
Macis,	
Mofchus,	
Olibanum,	
Pafinacæ rad.	}

And Serpyllum is faid to give a sweet relifh to the flefh of Animals feeding on it.

To which add,

Pinus, Scotch	} both which give their fmell to the Milk.
Firr dicta, and	
Sem. Anifi,	

And thefe following give a tincture to Urine, viz.

Coccinella,	} a deep red.
Lignum Campechianum,	

Curcumæ

Curcumæ rad. a deep yellow.

And it is recorded in the Philosophical Transactions, Vol. L. that Indigo tinges both the Urine and the Cream of the Milk of the Cows fed on it blue.

Levistici sem. tinges the Urine black.

Rhabarbarum, deep yellow.

Rhapontica rad. deep yellow.

Rubiæ tinctorum rad. tinges the Urine and Bones of Animals, and the Cryſtalline and Vitreous humors, of a red colour; and *Etmuller* observed the ſweat to have been yellow upon the uſe of it.









